

Liberal Party edges nearer April vote on Mr Thorpe

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Special meeting on changing poll rules

Mr Clark

Mr Thorpe

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Surprise attack could make nuclear weapons useless

By a Special Correspondent

Defence officials in Washington

are expressing concern at

the possibility of a surprise

attack on Western Europe.

A report, prepared by a

senior officer of NATO's armed

forces and now circulating

within the alliance, reaches the

conclusion that the

Warsaw Pact is capable of deliv-

ering a successful attack on

Western Europe using only con-

ventional forces and that the

surprise and speed of the opera-

tion would make it impossible

to use the tactical nuclear

weapons which are an integral

part of NATO's "flexible

response" strategy.

The report also reveals that

there are now 16,000 Soviet

troops operating in West Ger-

many alone, and suggests that

some of these are trained to

participate in a surprise attack

by seizing or destroying radio

and television stations, early

warning systems and key head-

quarters.

The report examines in detail

the probable timing and method

of a surprise attack, suggesting

that it would be mounted from

East Germany and that the main

initial operations would be

carried out by the 20 Soviet

divisions stationed there, possi-

bly reinforced by six East

German divisions.

This force could, within three

hours of the first move from

their peacetime locations, be

across the River Elbe and

attacking the West German

frontier guard units. Given

even the most favourable con-

ditions, NATO forces could not

occupy the positions earmarked

for them in the "forward

strategy" in less than 10 hours.

Some troops, such as the

Dotze Corps which is normally

300 kilometres from its battle

area, would take 24 hours to

move to their defensive posi-

tions.

By that time, the report con-

cludes, the Soviet Armies would

have penetrated deep into West

Germany, their advance assisted

by parachute and commando

units and by Fifth Column

operations organized by some

of the 16,000 Soviet agents now

known to be active in the

Federal Republic.

Within 48 hours of the start

of the attack, the Warsaw Pact

forces would have crossed the

Rhine.

On the assumption that it

would take the United States

President between 36 and 48

hours to reach a decision on

Nato study says Warsaw Pact forces could be across the Rhine within 48 hours, making nonsense of West's 'forward strategy'

the use of battlefield nuclear weapons, the report concludes that their use in the circumstances would cause more victims among civilians and allied troops than among the forces of the Warsaw Pact. The logical inference therefore is that the battlefield weapons will never be used.

As the report says "the trend which encourages the dismantling of our conventional forces and their chronic weakness results in a parallel increase in the risks of a nuclear conflagration at strategic level".

Although the author of the report accepts the political assumption that in present circumstances a surprise attack is unlikely, he draws attention to the progressive unilateral reduction in the armed forces

of the West while the Soviet

Union continues to build up its

military power at an alarming

rate, and concludes that any

further erosion of Western

European defence capability, or

even further reduction of

American force levels in West-

ern Europe would create a

situation in which the Warsaw

Pact might reasonably calculate

that a surprise offensive would

meet with immediate success

and thus ensure mastery of

the Euro-Asian continent for

the Soviet Union.

The report also refers to the

significant growth of com-

munist influence in Western

Europe, and the possibility that

economic and social pressures

might even bring about the

"arrival of regimes with

dominating communist ten-

dencies in certain European

countries".

It warns Western policy-

makers against falling into the

trap of assuming that existing

political conditions are un-

changeable, and points out that

they are a favourable military

and political situation, the Soviet

Union might have powerful

motives for a limited military

operation in Western Europe.

It would eliminate West Ger-

many, which is, in Soviet eyes,

assuming a position of increas-

ing predominance among the

European members of NATO; it

would shatter the image of a

free and prosperous society

which presents such a stark

contrast to the oppressive

totalitarianism of the East

European members of the War-

saw Pact; it would divert

attention from some of the

growing economic and social

problems within the Soviet

Union; and it would break the

back of the North Atlantic

Treaty Organization and post-

pone indefinitely any prospect

of political integration in

Western Europe.

In this context the report

recommends that Western

Europe should assume respon-

sibility for its own security,

no longer depending entirely

on the American nuclear um-

brella. If it does not, it is

argued, Europe has no political

future since "what cannot be

defended, in accordance with

the classic definition of

sovereignty is not politically

viable".

The principal impact of the

report, however, lies in its de-

tailed exposure of the basic

weakness of NATO's current mil-

itary strategy, and the total

inadequacy of the West's con-

ventional forces, in the face of

a determined Soviet assault.

It points out that the in-

sistence on a "forward de-

fence", conditioned largely by

West Germany's understandable

reluctance to surrender its

territory without a fight, makes

sense only in the context of

long warning times, giving the

West time to move to leisure

from its peacetime garrisons to

its combat positions.

The central message of the

report is that "chronic un-

preparedness, together with the

lack of the will to foresee the

likely moment" may create the

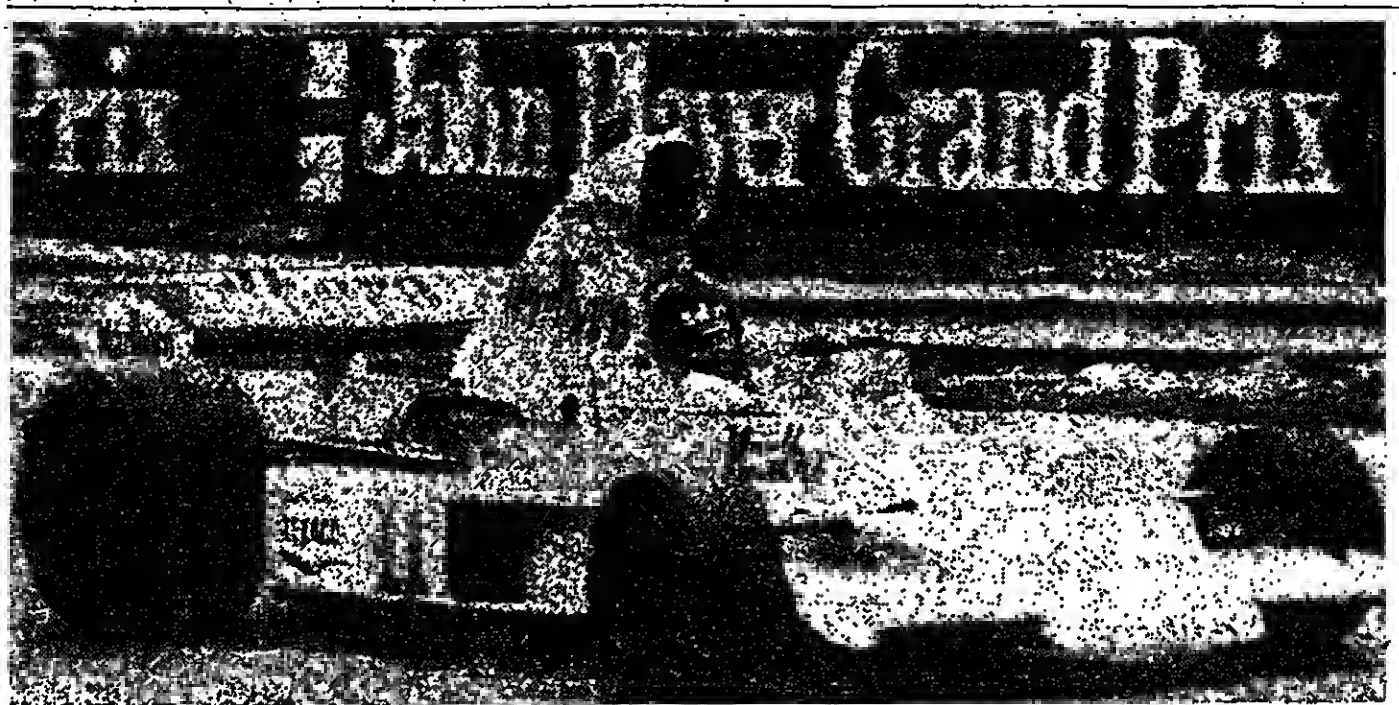
very conditions which would

lead the Soviet Union to con-

clude that a military attack on

the West would be successful.

The West must act, page 12



James Hunt, of Britain, who won the Race of Champions at Brands Hatch yesterday. The BBC dropped plans to televise the race. Advertisements for two brands of cigarette, an oil concern and a tyre company can be seen. Race report, page 10.

Setback for Mr Ford as campaign chief quits

From Fred Emery

Washington, March 14

President Ford's election

campaign suffered an unprece-

dented setback at the weekend. His

campaign manager, Mr Howard

Callaway, asked to be relieved

of his duties until he had been

cleared of any impropriety re-

garding an expansion of a ski

resort he owns on national

forest land.

The political fallout on Mr

Ronald Reagan's challenge to

Mr Ford in the Republican pri-

maries, with the next one due

in Illinois on Tuesday, was un-

certain.

Mr Callaway, a Secretary of

the Army under Mr Nixon, is

a Georgian who was transferred

from the Pentagon by Mr Ford

in order to run his campaign in

hopes of rallying Republican

strength in the South. He has

not been the most brilliant

campaign manager.

The accusations against Mr

Callaway are cloudy but serious

as they turn on whether he used

his federal office for personal

gain, which is a crime. The

Denver Post first disclosed the

story late on Friday, and pre-

cipitated Mr Callaway into

offering to stand down; this is

insisted upon at the White

House.

The President, sounding a

little nettled by the affair, pro-

nounced his faith in Mr Call-

away. Mr Ford said he would

wait to see what happened in

the investigation "but on a per-

sonal basis he is a man of in-

tegrity".

Mr Callaway rather unhelp-

fully said he expected the

matter to be cast a pall on the

campaign, and he wanted it

to be seen that the Ford men

had acted instantly to clarify

and meet the accusations.

The facts are that the first

expanding ski resort, the Call-

away family owns at Crested

Butte, a once deserted mining

town in south-west Colorado,

has recently benefited from a

reversal of a national forest

decision.

The federal forest men had

approved granting 2,000 acres on

Snodgrass Mountain for extra

skiing facilities to the Callaway

company. Last year the offi-

cers were transferred, their de-

cision was reversed in the

Callaway company's favour.

Mr Callaway is alleged to

have begun intervening in the

matter while serving as Army

Secretary, and later as cam-

paign manager.

Senator Floyd Haskell of

Colorado has announced he will

hold hearings next month of

the appropriate Senate sub-

committee.

Illinois primary, page 6

Egypt moves to cut link with Moscow

From Our Correspondent

WOULD BRITISH INDUSTRY BE HEALTHIER TAKING MONEY OUT OF THE BANK, NOT PUTTING IT IN?

The TUC and CBI seem to think so. Repeatedly they've issued warnings about under-investment. Their fear is that when the recovery of world trade that we've been hoping and praying for arrives, Britain will be in no shape to take advantage of it.

The Bank of England's of the same opinion. And in its circular last year it asked banks to:

"...direct advances towards the expansion of exports, the saving of imports and industrial investments."

This doesn't mean that we at Barclays are going to hand out money to everyone who comes knocking on our door.

The country won't get anywhere by throwing good money after bad.

We must pin our hopes and hard cash on successful but under-invested firms.

We must put them in a position where they can win home markets; sell against other countries on world markets; compete with the French, Germans and Americans for overseas contracts.

Understandably, before parting with large sums of money, we'll need to ask a few questions of even the most successful firms.

We'll want to talk about your plans for the future, as well as getting a feel of the way you do business.

If you've been making full use of our banking services, we'll already have a good idea of your cash and tax position. All of which will pin-point the kind of backing you need.

For instance, a Medium Term Loan for capital investment can be drawn in different ways.

Whereas one company would prefer it as a lump sum, another would rather draw it in instalments.

(By the way, despite the name, a Medium Term Loan can last as long as 10 years.)

For a third company, the bank's leasing facilities may be more attractive than a loan. Working capital is released and there are often tax advantages.

With all these schemes the terms of repayment can be constant, or vary season to season, year to year to suit your cash flow.

Sometimes payments can be suspended until you are benefiting fully from the investment. And in certain cases, you can repay the entire loan at the end of the period.

If you sell abroad, we can be of still more help.

To encourage foreign customers to place orders with you, we will always consider providing them with suitable finance through Barclays Bank International. It's a useful way to expand established markets quite apart from opening up new ones.

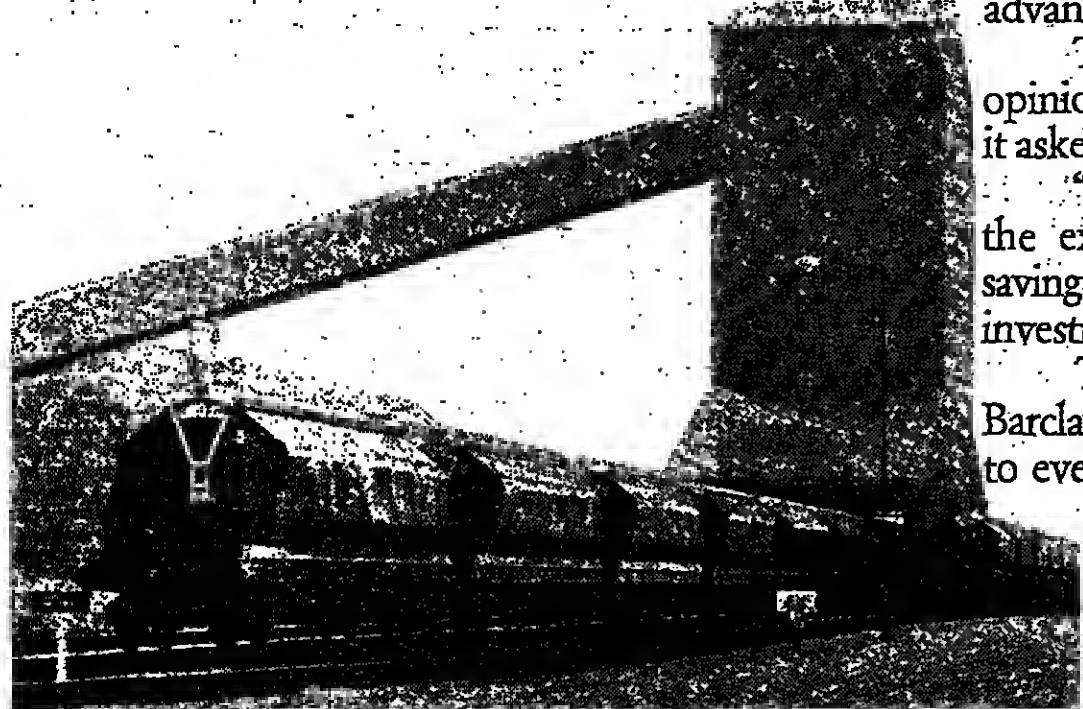
Having done that, we can often protect you against exchange rate fluctuations by selling foreign currency for you in advance.

We provide this protection for companies that buy abroad as well. Whether they import finished goods or raw materials.

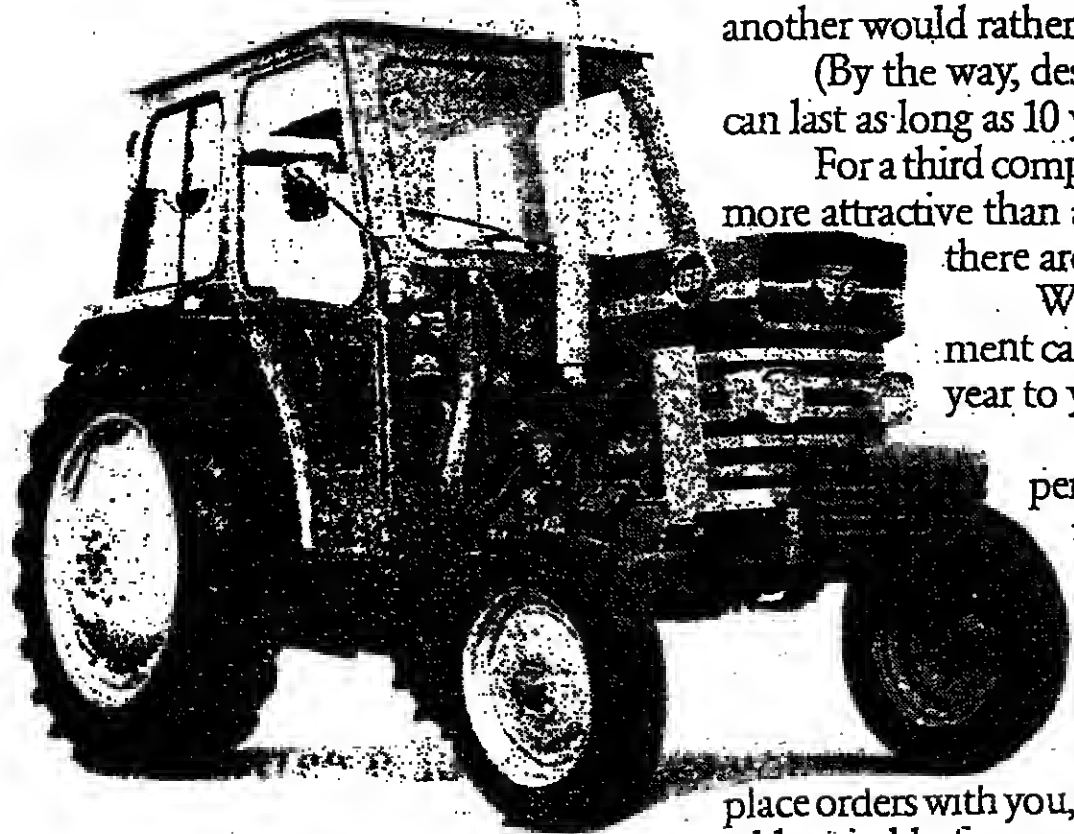
But no matter what backing or help is needed, the first step is always the same.

Arrange a meeting with your local Barclays Bank Manager. He knows there's truth in the old adage; it takes money to make money.

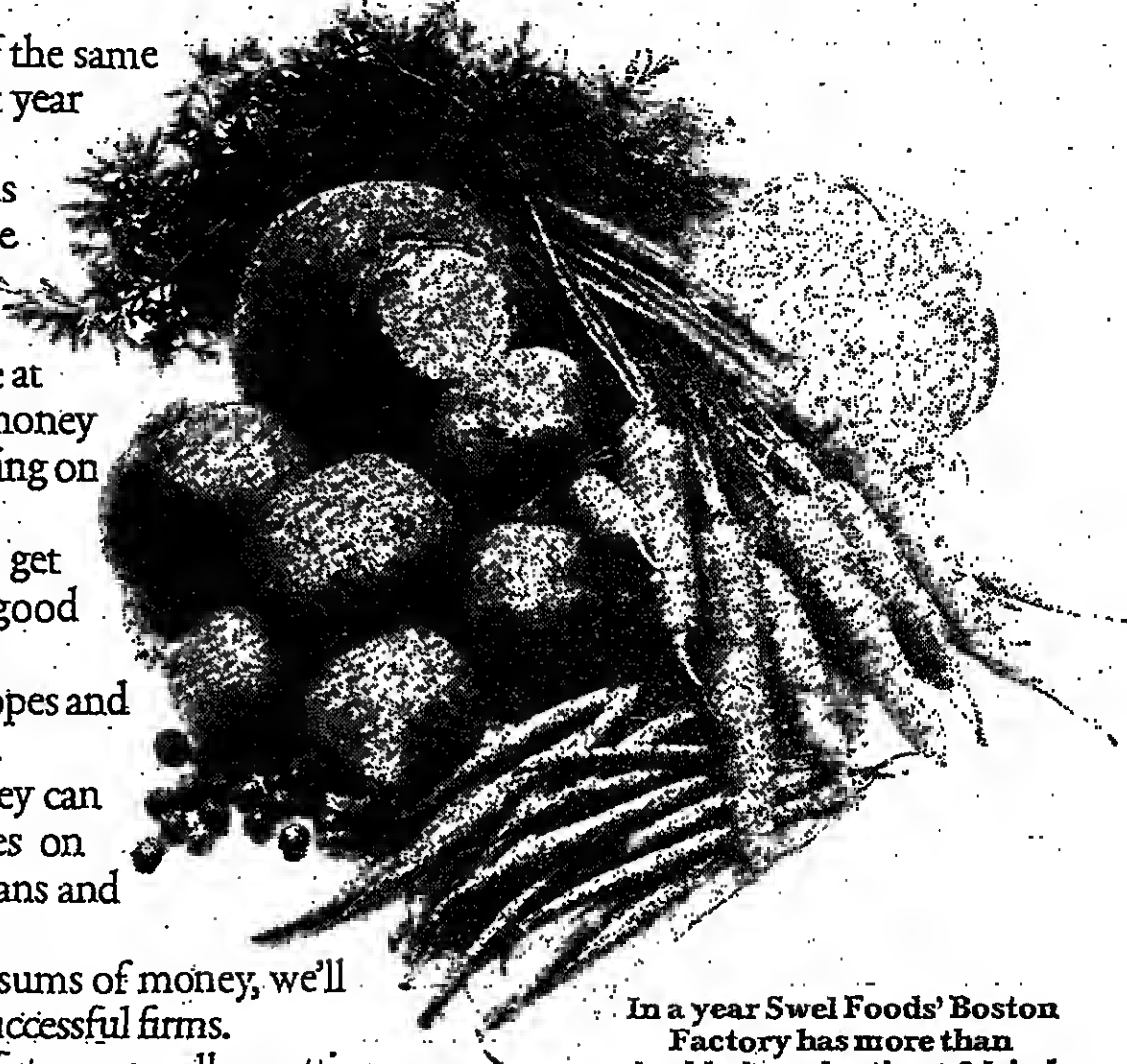
BARCLAYS



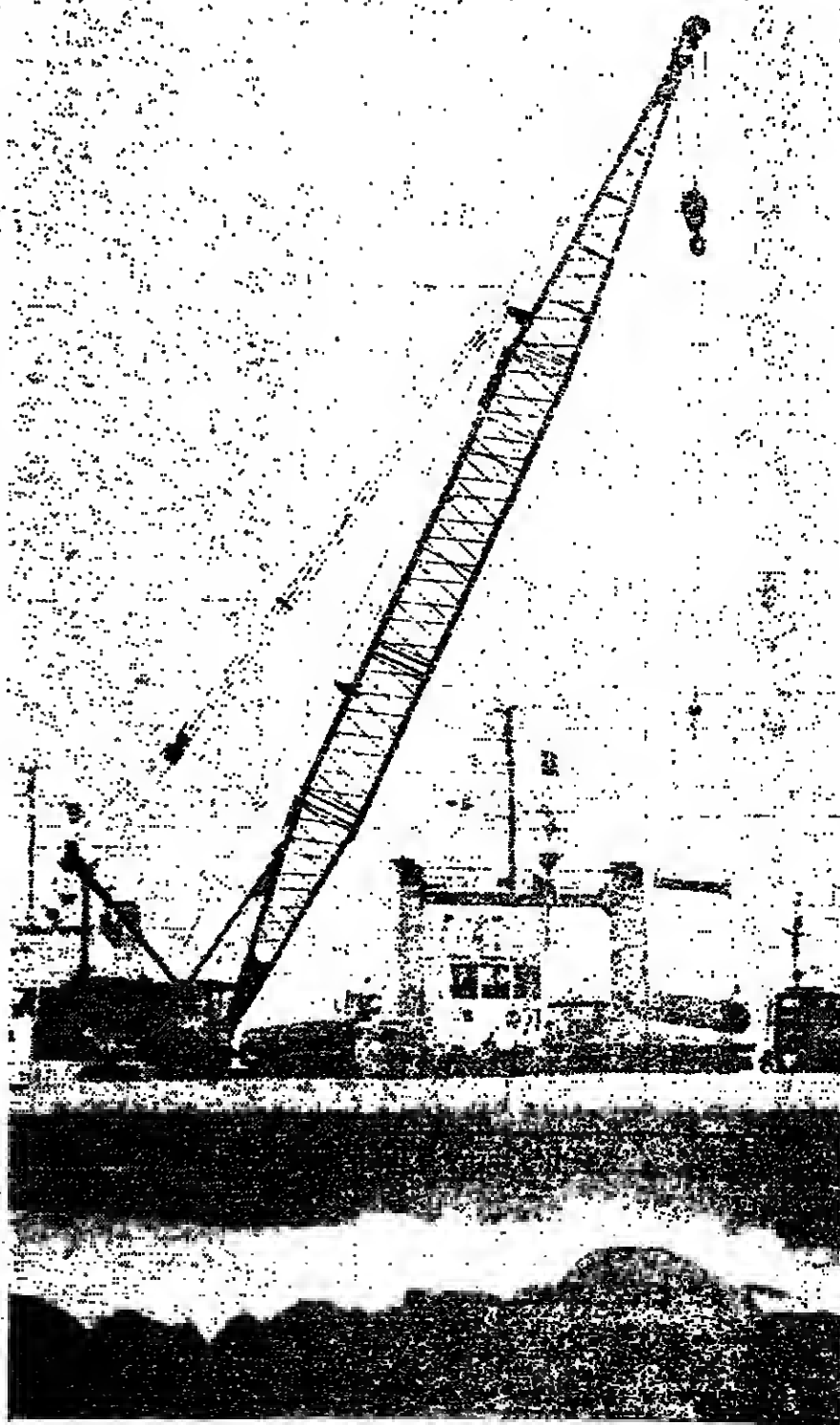
An £18 million Medium Term Loan to Cleveland Potash will help turn Britain into a net exporter of potash.



Massey Ferguson Perkins Ltd, has gained a £170 million contract. The Polish buyer was helped by Barclays with sterling and currency syndicated loans, repayable over several years.



In a year Swel Foods' Boston Factory has more than doubled production of dried vegetables by taking a £150,000 Medium Term Loan over 5 years for a new drier.



B.O.C. International is leasing a new £220,000 crane for 7 years through Barclays Bank. Oil pipe and heavy goods handling efficiency has increased by 30%.

Bomb damages offices in Portugal as socialist leaders meet

ova, from Czechoslovakia, February 14 to snatch her baby and slashed her face when she resisted.—Reuter.

Charges of sedition over Basque strikes

... ..

Warning by American ambassador on possible effects of Communists coming to power

Number of hauls	<i>P. setiferus</i> (%)	<i>P. setiferus</i> + <i>P. setiferus</i> + <i>P. setiferus</i> (%)
1	10	5
2	25	10
3	45	15
4	65	18
5	80	20
6	90	22
7	95	23
8	98	24
9	99	25
10	100	26

Poles pay tribute to German Chancellor

ED

ciated, Herr Stefan Olszowski, the Polish Foreign Minister, was expected to come to Bonn in April, he said.

In West Germany there seems less interest in the merits of the agreements themselves than in deciding to whom the credit for them is due.

Herr Franz Josef Strauss

French poll turnout rises

ED

Vietnamese orphans in mass escape

Age Group	Total (%)	Male (%)	Female (%)	Unknown (%)
18-24	100	45	55	100
25-34	100	55	45	100
35-44	100	45	55	100
45-54	100	35	65	100
55-64	100	25	75	100
65+	100	15	85	100

Newspaper hit by dispute over computer techniques

id in the bag said that he attacked Miss Jirina Jirina, from Czechoslovakia, February 14 to snatch her bag and slashed her face as she resisted.—Reuter.

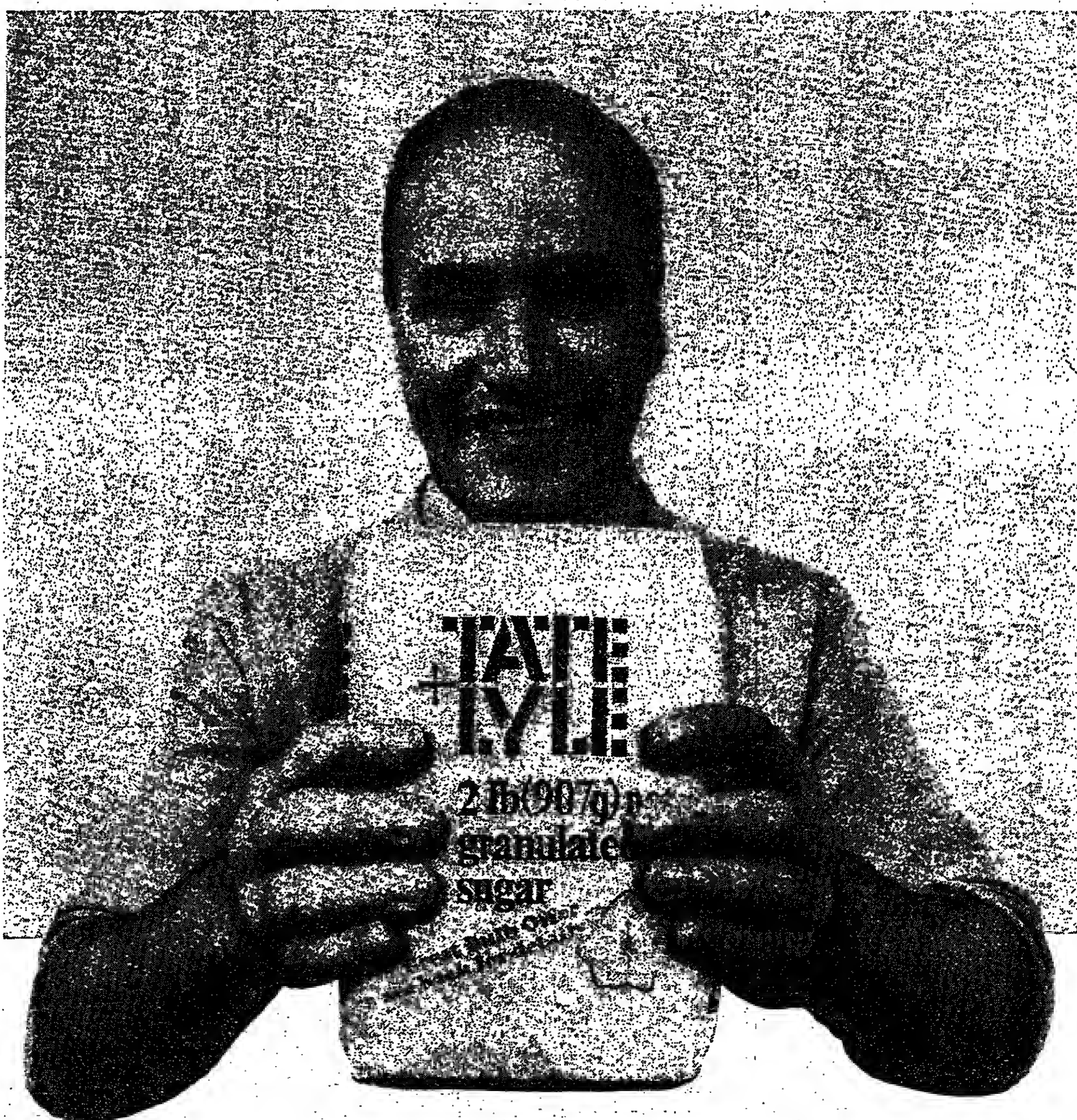
Italy suspends SS colonel's life jail sentence

door blown in
Bastia, March 14.—An explosion blew in the door of the town hall at the village of Bezzani in Corsica today, the police said. They believe the attack was linked to the second round of French cantonal elections.—Reuter.

Corsican town hall door blown in

Bastia, March 14.—An explosion blew in the door of the town hall at the village of Bezzani in Corsica today, the police said. They believe the attack was linked to the second round of French cantonal elections.—Reuter.

Table 1



Pure energy, from Jim Houston.

Jim Houston knows about sugar. He should do: he's worked at Tate & Lyle's Greenock refinery on the Clyde for 22 years. What's more, his father worked there before him.

Jim knows that sugar is pure, natural energy. Whether it's granulated, caster, icing, brown, cube sugar, golden syrup or treacle, he knows there's no finer, purer sugar in the world than Tate & Lyle's range and no wider range, either. He knows because he's one of the six thousand people in the Tate & Lyle refineries who work to make it for you.

For over a hundred years we've been refining sugar in Britain - mostly cane sugar from the tropics. Our aim is to go on serving you as in the past and our refineries are developing new technology and new products.

There's nothing you use in your kitchen that's purer. In these inflationary times, the sugar price has actually shown a considerable net reduction in the last year. So there's no cheaper way of giving your family the energy it needs than to use Tate & Lyle British refined sugar: pure energy, from Jim Houston.

TATE & LYLE REFINERIES LIMITED
London. Liverpool. Greenock.

OVERSEAS

Primary in Illinois is power test for Daley party machine

From Michael Binyon
Chicago, March 14

Few people really care which presidential candidate wins the "beauty" contest, as the popular vote in the Illinois primary election on Tuesday is called. There is far more interest in what happens to the man who has dominated Chicago for more than 20 years: its mayor, Mr Richard Daley.

Mr Daley, last of the big city bosses as he is invariably called, is one of the most influential and controversial figures in the Democratic Party, and intends to remain so. He has a lot at stake on Tuesday. What is being tested is whether he can once again lead the stable Illinois delegation to the Democratic national convention with enough votes in his pocket to play the role of king-maker be so much enjoys.

To do this, he must win a majority of the 155 Democratic delegates who are up for election in the state. He has fielded a vast number of almost every precinct, each of them pledged not to any of the declared candidates but to Senator Adlai Stevenson. The mayor has endorsed this popular Illinois senator as a "favourite son".

In Illinois, unlike Florida, the election of delegates is quite unrelated to the popular vote for the presidential candidate, although each delegate is pledged to one or other of the runners, this allegiance is not binding. This means that every one elected on the Stevenson ticket can be counted on to switch his support at the convention to whomever Mr Daley chooses to back.

There is no doubt Mr Stevenson will win a majority, perhaps about 70 per cent. Almost certainly the 155 delegates will then elect Mr Daley chairman, an important symbolic victory for the mayor,

who has never got over being forced out of the Democratic convention in 1972.

Naturally, the main Democratic contenders in Illinois have done everything to keep in with the mayor none more obsequiously than Mr Sargent Shriver, who hoped his relationship by marriage to the Kennedy family would elicit Mr Daley's endorsement. The mayor, however, has refused to back what seems a losing cause.

Mr Jimmy Carter, the former Governor of Georgia, has been keeping a respectful distance from the Daley machine, but has let it be known that his delegates, probably between 30 and 40, would vote for Mr Daley as chairman.

But it is not quite like the old days. Mr Daley is involved in a bitter power struggle in his own state. On Tuesday, Illinois also holds its primary for nomination as candidate for state governor. In 1972 the state picked a Democrat who fought almost a crusade against the Daley machine. Mr Daniel Walker, the Governor, had been sworn on waves of anti-Daley sentiment, especially in the rural south. Mr Daley is determined to get him out.

The mayor is backing a challenger, Mr Michael Howlett, and it is this vitriolic fight between the two which, as everything else, has fascinated Illinois.

Mr Daley's protégé now looks less secure and people think Mr Walker might just scrape home. It could be a considerable blow to the mayor.

Our Washington Correspondent writes: Mr Edmund Brown, governor of California, has joined the other Democrats by announcing his entry into his state's presidential primary on June 8. He also hinted that he might run in some of the other remaining states as well.

Senator Jackson gives warning on Africa

From Fred Emery
Washington, March 14

Senator Henry Jackson declared today that the last thing the United States should do was to become aligned with white minority regimes in southern Africa. Mr Jackson, who is often considered the most hard-line in foreign policy of the Democratic candidates for presidential nomination, was asked on a national television interview what he would do, as President, if the Cubans invaded Rhodesia.

He answered that he would try to get a unified position among the African nations and would not make the grave mistake he imputed to Dr Kissinger, the Secretary of State, over Angola, of getting "lined up with South Africa".

Mr Jackson rejected the apocalyptic view of those who detected growing Soviet domination in Africa. "If we are patient the black people will

fight off a new colonialism", he said. Ironically, it was Mr Jackson's most ardent new-found supporters who, as United Nations representative, gave a dramatic warning that the Soviet Union was trying to "colonize" Africa.

Mr Jackson admitted that he had been wrong on Vietnam. The war had been fought, as a result of China's India war in 1962 and President Sukarno's expansionism in Indonesia, against the "domino" effect of communism.

In fact, he recalled, all the old "China hands" persecuted by Senator Joseph McCarthy in the 1950s were the ones who had been right about China.

Asked whether he was not falling into the same sort of trap with his blind support of Israel, Mr Jackson could answer only that he had never been invited to visit the Arab countries. He agreed that he had never tried to get invited.

Arab Army claims to hold two thirds of Lebanon

Continued from page 1

clared in a broadcast over the state radio he controls. "We are compelled to resolve the situation by force if Franjeh continues in his intransigent position. But we wish to avoid this if it is at all possible". He gave no new deadline for the President to step down.

It is now the view of many observers that Mr Franjeh's stubbornness may force the military to put their threat into action. Since Thursday he has played for time but he has now rejected outright the demand for his resignation. When Mr Kamel Assad, the Speaker, took the petition with the 68 signatures yesterday, he refused even to accept it.

"There is only one way I am leaving this place," Mr Franjeh declared, "and it is death". The parliamentary petition contained more than the two-thirds of deputies which the President originally said he would accept, but the fact that the Pahlavans and the Chammounists have not turned against him has encouraged him in his gamble in clinging to power.

He also calculates that any use of force to drive him out of his Baabda Palace would make of him a martyr among the Christian electorate and rob the insurrectionists of the support they now enjoy. However, he appears to have overlooked the real danger of his continued intransigence which was pointed out by Mr Kamel Jumblatt, the Socialist leader. "If Franjeh does not go," he said, "then

Lebanon will be plunged into complete revolution".

Brigadier Ahdab has called on Parliament to elect a new president when it meets on Tuesday. Much will depend on the ability of President Assad to bring Syrian pressure to bear on Mr Franjeh. The fact that he cancelled his state visit to France, considered an important event in his calendar, emphasizes the seriousness with which the Syrians view developments.

When President Assad pushed the Palestinian Liberation Army across the border into Lebanon it was considered at the time as perhaps his last card. Now all that was achieved by that move has been seriously damaged.

With the Army in its present state, it is not known just what support Brigadier Ahdab can muster. The most senior Muslim officer and known as non-sectarian, he is highly respected and is believed to have the full support of the rest of the command.

However, the self-styled Arab Army remains a problem since it controls about two-dozen garages, camps and units throughout the Muslim areas. Indeed, Lieutenant Khatib claims that he holds two-thirds of Lebanon.

The force at President Franjeh's command is unlikely to be able to withstand what Brigadier Ahdab could muster. About 1,000 men commanded by Colonel Antoine Barakat, from Mr Franjeh's home town of Zgharta, is dug in around the presidential palace.

Leading article, page 13

Army aids Egyptians expelled by Libya

Cairo, March 14.—The Egyptian Army has hastily pitched tents in the Western Desert, swept by sandstorms, to shelter thousands of Egyptians streaming across the border after their expulsion from Libya, officials said here today. A special train was heading for Sallum, a barren frontier post to bring back some of the refugees expelled on orders of Colonel Gaddafi, the Libyan leader. Another train will be sent on Tuesday.

So far, 6,616 Egyptians, including women and children, are reported to have been expelled.

At Sallum, they have been battered by the blinding sandstorms which sweep the desert at this time of the year.

The semi-official newspaper Al-Ahram quoted refugees as saying that 20 more Libyan jets loaded with Egyptians were heading for the border. Every available vehicle in Alexandria has been sent across the desert with food for those expelled.

Most of the expelled Egyptians were semi-skilled workers, some of whom reported that they had been held in prison, where they were beaten and maltreated, before being taken to the border under heavy guard.

The mass expulsion is in retaliation for the arrest in Egypt last week of 27 Libyans, alleged to have been sent to kidnap or assassinate two senior Libyan officials who seek refuge in Egypt several months ago.

The verbal war between Egypt and Libya has cast doubt on the future of the loose Federation of Arab Republics, which also includes Syria. But officials in Cairo said Egypt was unlikely to take any action which might break the federation.—Reuter.



Mr Jim Rankin, aged 43, who emigrated to Rhodesia from Ayrshire in 1949. As the pistol on his hip suggests, his tobacco farm near Mount Darwin is in an area vulnerable to guerrilla attack.

Why some white Rhodesians gave up Utopia

From Michael Knipe
Salisbury, March 14

White Rhodesians, generally, have resented with characteristic impatience the latest of their misfortunes: the closing of the border with Mozambique and the increased prospect of a serious stepping up of the guerrilla war.

Estate agents say that immediately after the announcement from Mozambique, a few more houses came on the market but it was hardly a widespread panic and the property business quickly settled down again. Politicians and public have been ecstatically critical of what they regard as the exaggerated impression of their predicament presented in the international press. For more than a decade now, white Rhodesians have grown increasingly impatient to the prospect of doom and disaster that have accompanied the catalogue of settlement failures.

They are equally unmoved by the almost constant prospect of new developments which might finally resolve Rhodesia's fate. Whites who support the Rhodesian Front Government

and the 18 per cent who oppose it, tend to share, from their different perspectives, this sense of the immutability—at least in the short term—of the Rhodesian way of life.

There may be terrorists in the bush but no one appears to be frightened. Everybody seems satisfied that the security forces have the upper hand.

Petrol rationing is severe, shortages of luxury goods—caused by the lack of adequate foreign currency reserves—have been increasing. In the shops, military service is affecting more people more frequently. But these hardships are detracting little from the pleasures of white life here and they are contributing to a patriotic emotion that white Rhodesians like to compare to that of wartime Britain.

Walking through the well-manicured gardens of Cecil Square, lush from the rains, in central Salisbury, a stockbroker, critical of the Government, says: "It's obvious life cannot carry on like this but we've been saying that for 10 years and it is still carrying on, isn't it? So there's no reason to leave."

But if most whites are maintaining their sense of well-being, the fact remains that a few are throwing in the towel. Last year, more whites left the country than in any year since 1964 (just before UDI)—a total of 10,500. They have been replaced by a total of 12,425 white immigrants—the highest since 1972. A large number of these, however, are refugees from Mozambique and Angola. Recently, the refugees have accounted for a quarter of the monthly totals.

Significantly, most of the whites who are leaving are the ones Rhodesia can least afford to lose—the professional and skilled people who find it easiest to obtain employment elsewhere. One man who left this weekend with his wife and three children was the 41-year-old owner of an engineering company manufacturing mining equipment.

He was doing so, he explained, because he was unable to see the prospect of his business expanding in any worthwhile manner. "No matter how well you do here, it will not buy you anything elsewhere, either in terms of business or pleasure. It is

like doing business in a strait-jacket. Rhodesia is the nearest thing there is to Utopia, but in the circumstances that is not enough."

The Church attack: A white Rhodesian church leader yesterday attacked in London British and world church authorities for backing the overthrow of the Smith regime.

The Rt Rev John Paul Burroughs, Bishop of Maseru, said from the pulpit of St Paul's Cathedral that Rhodesia's collapse would increase starvation and bloodshed in Africa and pose a communist threat to Western Europe.

He said he had consistently championed Africans by opposing the regime to the point of being threatened with prosecution. "But never would I dream of trying to bring the Government down into the dust."

The bishop added: "Recently, the church—notably the World Council of Churches and indeed the official church of this country—has decided you must violently change the system in order to change the individual." This was the exact reverse of the true mission of the church.

Folk art assists anti-Teng campaign

From David Bonavia
Peking, March 14

Evidence mounted in Peking today that the present campaign to oust Mr Teng Hsiang-ping is being controlled and planned by Mrs Chiang Ching-kuo, the wife of Chairman Mao Tse-tung.

At the same time differences of emphasis in Peking's two main newspapers suggest that Mrs Chiang Ching has succeeded in controlling one of them, the Kuang Ming, but they have control of the People's Daily, the main party organ, is still limited.

The entire back page of the Kuang Ming was today devoted to poems and statements by peasants and artists at the village of Hsiao Chin Chuang, near Hsienyang, which Mrs Chiang Ching has for some time been working to convert into a model of "peasant culture" on lines devised by her and her collaborators.

Half a dozen poems by local people declared their loyalty to the principles for literature and art which Mrs Chiang Ching has long espoused and which have allegedly been mocked by Mr Teng.

A poem attributed to one of the budding artists at Hsiao Chin Chuang village read as follows:

Our feet have tramped 10,000 miles, the burdens on us sure were piles. Our ears knew only Mao's Good word, our brains were swelled by what we heard. We were the country's hope-filled youth, farmers, workers, thrilled by truth. The hero's spirit in our breast for all the world must be the best.

We have poured our sweat and burnt our brains, the fire we feel, it really smarts. To learn from Tachai's deathless ring is nurturing our youthful spring. Some folks say "Go on with school"—we think there is no one such a fool.

We wield our pens like hoe or pick, our anti-rightist move will stick. Tachai is a model agricultural unit in north-west China.

Thais split on future of US bases

From Bruce Palling
Bangkok, March 14

With only 10 days to go before the remaining American forces in Thailand must leave, the Thai Government has still not reached formal agreement with the United States on the number of advisers or installations to remain.

A Foreign Ministry announcement released today carries the threat that unless agreement is reached on "broad principles" before Saturday, all American installations and technicians will have to go.

The statement is more important for the split it reveals in the Thai Government, which wants tighter control over American staff and advisers, and the Thai military. In any clash of wills between the two the military is likely to prevail as the armed forces have the ultimate strength to back up any position they take.

Mr Kulak Pramoj, the Thai Prime Minister, emphasized yesterday that the United States must negotiate directly with the Foreign Ministry rather than with the supreme command on future force levels. There is little evidence, however, to suggest that the United States has tried this tactic.

Instead, the United States can rely on the strongly anti-communist armed forces to make their views known to the Foreign Ministry in any negotiations for both landing rights at the former B52 air base at Udon and the retention of key communications installations in the north and north-east Thailand.

The National Students Centre of Thailand has demanded clarification of the withdrawal programme from Major-General Chaiyachai Choochavan, the Foreign Minister. Last week, however, the centre announced

that it did not object in principle to American advisers remaining in Thailand.

The biggest remaining bone of contention is the number of advisers who will be permitted to stay. At present, estimates of their numbers vary between 500 and 4,000. Sources close to the Prime Minister, estimate that 2,000 will probably remain.

The American base already being assured of landing rights at Udon after Saturday in an emergency. One possible way of dealing with any military refuelling stops by the United States is simply making it a commercial operation under Thai civilian authority.

The political situation in Thailand being unstable before the general election, set for April 4, both the United States Embassy and the American military spokesmen have been tight-lipped about the negotiations. Leading article, page 13

Mrs Gandhi likely to visit Moscow in the summer

From Kuldip Nayyar
Delhi, March 14

Mrs Gandhi, the Indian Prime Minister, is expected to visit the Soviet Union this summer.

This is one reason why Mr I. K. Gujral, Indian Ambassador designate to the Soviet Union, has been asked to take up his post quickly. Working out the Prime Minister's itinerary will be one of his immediate jobs.

The Soviet Union has been pressing for the return visit of Mrs Gandhi for some time. After Mr Brezhnev's visit to Delhi in 1973, Indian Foreign Ministers have gone to Moscow but Mrs Gandhi has not yet been able to take up her post.

Relations between India and Russia are friendly. As Mrs Gandhi said in an interview with Moscow television in December, relations were based on abiding principles and not transient factors. In his report to the Soviet Communist Party Congress, Mr Brezhnev said that the Soviet Union attached special importance to the friendship with "that great country, India".

However, a few things can become irritants. For example, the exchange ratio between the rupee and the rouble has not been fixed since the rupee was detached from the pound sterling. There is also a report that Soviet arms have found their way to Pakistan through North Korea. Delhi has sought information from Moscow at which North Korea has denied the sales of arms to Pakistan.

Mrs Gandhi, who may be accompanied by Mr Cavan, the Foreign Minister, will exchange views with the Soviet leaders on international events. The detente between Moscow and Washington may come up for special discussion. Only the other day the Prime Minister said the events in Angola had proved that "some of the detente is only on the surface and we still have many problems on which there is sharp division of opinion".

Some ground was covered when Mr N. Fyryubin, the Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister, was in Delhi a few days ago. The forthcoming conference of non-aligned countries is also said to have figured in his talks here.

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Cuban leader drives on Castro highway

Dakar, March 14.—Dr Castro, the Cuban Prime Minister, arrived in Conakry, Guinea, today for a meeting with President Agostinho Neto of Angola.

President Neto, who is also the Guinea-Bissau head of state, according to Conakry radio, arrived in Conakry on Tuesday. Dr Castro drove from the airport into Conakry on the "Autoroute Fidel Castro—Infinite highway of history".

The road, which crosses a bridge bearing a painting of the Cuban leader, was so named after one of Dr Castro's two previous visits to Guinea. AP.

Miles second in international chess contest

Lone Pine, California, March 14.—Anthony Miles, aged 20, Britain's first chess grandmaster, came equal second with eight other players in the international chess tournament that ended here yesterday.

Tigran Petrossian, of the Soviet Union, a former world champion, won first prize of \$8,000 (about £4,000) with 5½ points.

Miles was half a point behind together with Smylov, Christiansen, Brown, Panno, Quinteros, Fortinos, Rogoff and either Wajdorf or Commons (that game was unfinished).—AP.

Zulu leader calls for majority rule in S Africa

From Nicholas Ashford
Johannesburg, March 14

In one of the most outspoken public statements by a black South African leader for years, Chief Gatsha Buthelezi, the Zulu leader, today denounced the Nationalist Government's "homelands" policy and said that the country must now move towards majority rule.

He called for a series of black national conventions to discuss such matters as foreign investments in South Africa, the "homelands", independence, issue and the country's foreign policy, particularly the move to achieve detente with black Africa.

Chief Buthelezi, who was addressing 12,000 people packed into the Johannesburg Stadium in Soweto, the sprawling African township outside Johannesburg, was making probably the most important policy statement of his political career.

It was clear that in doing so he was attempting to speak as a leader of all South African blacks, not just the Zulus, and also trying to broaden his Inkatha National Cultural Liberation Movement into an all-embracing black political organisation, a potential successor to the banned African National Congress (ANC).

Chief Buthelezi said that the whole world must be told that South Africa's blacks despised what some people euphemistically called "separate development". South Africa was not a country, it had one destiny and one economy.

Those who were attempting to divide the land into "homelands" were "fighting against the force of history that began marching across Africa in the 1930s and which had all but reached South Africa's borders by 1975."

He went on to loud cheers: "History will triumph over apartheid. It will triumph because in the final analysis history is made by majorities and not by minorities. Minorities cannot prevail for ever."

Chief Buthelezi made it clear that he was not advocating violence. "I am offering a black band of friendship to the whites of South Africa—probably for the last time." But it was entirely up to the whites whether the revolution unfolding in South Africa would be peaceful or bloody.

The chief, who was greeted by chants of "Amananda Aweto" ("Power is ours") and "Sonqupho Simunye" ("We shall conquer as one"), said it was time for Mr Vorster, the Prime Minister, and white South Africans, whole to realize that they could not expect support from black South Africans in their struggle to maintain white dominance in southern Africa.

Unless detente began at home it would not succeed across South Africa's borders. In his opinion detente had not only failed but the Government had burnt its fingers in Angola.

The events in the former Portuguese territories had "brought a new sense of nationalist awareness into the hearts and minds of South Africa's blacks". He was convinced that black nationalism would prove to be the determining force in South African politics.

It is clear that Chief Buthelezi's watershed speech today is a direct challenge to Mr Vorster to modify his domestic policies while there is still time.

Prisoners conscience



Bulgaria: Makarov

Vladimir Yurievich was a retired chemist, a researcher living quietly in Sofia when he was arrested in September.

With two friends, accused of "ideological" activities against the Bulgarian and Soviet Governments, he was tried in Sofia on February 13, five years' imprisonment, fine of 1,000 leva (the Bulgarian currency) and a course in Sofia, sentenced to three and a half years respectively.

They were said to be planning a destructive socialist order in Bulgaria, presumably had been discussing rights and the problem of dissent.

Mr Makarov was also according to Bulgarian sources to have been an unspecified foreigner in agencies, but their names were not disclosed at either his trial or trial.

Mr Makarov, who in pre-revolutionary Bulgaria was a socialist, was also a disseminating "stupid literature and material". It is referred to publication of a book on the "History of the Bulgarian Student Movement and the Press."

Three weeks after Miss Lvoff was released from French psychiatric detention, she now, she intends to marry a Bulgarian.

The Bulgarian, it is alleged that Mr Mak 61 and divorced, a contact with relative from whom he was being "subversive" the Bulgarian literature and remains in jail.

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Justice is done as Percival again ticks a vital penalty for Sale

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Bristol is not the place to look for a revival

Gosforth should broaden horizon of back play

rees drooping of the colours

Gibson misses Irish team training

Michael Gibson, the Irish centre, missed yesterday's team training preparation for next Saturday's rugby international match against Scotland in Dublin because of flu. Gibson will join his teammates for training later in the week.

Should broaden check play

of the colours

Hockey Some rays of hope for British team

That Britain conceded only one goal in two matches was due mainly to the courage of Mills who saved four certain goals against the Netherlands. He did not touch the ball until about midway in the second half against Ireland, but rescued Britain from a crisis towards the end.

"The saddest fact of the whole exercise was that Britain scored only one goal in two matches and

England came

Billie Casper, of the United States, took the \$5,000 first prize by beating another American, Laury Wadkins, in a sudden-death playoff in the Gran Premio Is Molass off In the Grand here today.

First division: Northampton 11, Old
 Kemlon 4; St Helier 0, Leo 9.
NORTH-OF-ENGLAND LEAGUE:
 First division: Ashton 0, Old
 Gloucestians 13; Boardman and Eccles
 0, Macraesians 5; Moller 10, Stockport

Allen, the Irish goalkeeper, saves Blackmore's penalty.

McGinn scooping the ball into an 3: Great Britain 0, Ireland 0.

ad their wings at Wembley

The victory was particularly satisfying for the 19-year-old Morerod, who just a week ago watched as Ros Mittermaier.

GOANSK: World champion-his
Groom C: Austria 7, France 1; Huoga
10, Denmark 2.

Horse trials

Advantage pursued by Stainless Steel

Cricket

**Viswanath and
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Keighley takes to bridge 40-y

Swinton 2 Castleford 9
Before one of their lowest
crowds of the season, the bottom-

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by Smith and Herkin and Fox kicked three goals.

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PHS

Spanish islands

a Special Report



Can girl models traditional dolls after her own costume; new flats go up along the beach at Santa Ponsa, Majorca; valley of the Gran Rey at Santa Cruz, Tenerife.

Tour bargains are part of initiative to replace lost role as bridge to Sahara

by Harry Debelius

The departure of the Spanish officials from the Sahara at the end of 1975, the Canary Islands, ceased to be a bridge between mainland and the country's overseas territories.

A role which the islands will miss, for it was ever since they came under the flag of Castile 500 years ago. Columbus, so did the busy ships plying between Spain and the New World until the last Spanish in America achieved independence. After the Cuba in the Spanish-American War, the Canaries bridged the gap between Spain and its African possessions. Then Equatorial Guinea was launched as an independent nation, and the Sahara ceased to be Spanish territory.

Geologically the Canaries have been an outpost of only months after the end of the authoritarianism of the late General Franco, and the strong central government that he led. The change has come at a time when the island economy is still in a state of stagnation. Factors increase the fact that some of the people have that been neglected by the Madrid Government. Factors also increase the fact that some of the people have that been neglected by the Madrid Government.

With Morocco now in charge of the Sahara, the prospects for the future of many of the islands' fishermen are also limited.

While Morocco has agreed, under the three-power Madrid pact of last November, to allow Spanish fishing boats to fish in the rich banks off the Saharan coast for the next 10 years, the fishermen will need permits from the Moroccan Government, permits which will be free of charge for the first five years but which will have to be paid for over the next five years. The bulk of the coastal fishing in the islands has taken place up to now off the coast of the Sahara.

During the boom which ended about two years ago, it was widely believed that the tourist industry was a panacea for the archipelago. Now it is clear that such is not the case, although, like an addict, the islands can no longer do without a stiff dose of tourism every year. The sudden upsurge of world tourism, and Spain's popularity with holiday-makers from northern Europe and other parts of the world, led for several years to a race to rip out banana plantations and plant hotels and housing developments as rapidly as possible. That practice brought welcome profits for a while but it was not long before it became clear that it also brought problems.

The most serious of those problems, on a long-term basis, is the drastic lowering of the water table in most of the islands, always an area of sparse rainfall. The islands never really felt the lack of abundant water until the tower block hotels and

stepping-stone islands like the Canaries.

With the tourism outlook already gloomy, several people died in February from tainted food served in aircraft of Spantax, Spain's charter airline, bound for the Canaries. In spite of rigid inspections and precautions to prevent a repetition of the incident, tourism officials have little doubt that the deaths will cause cancellations by others who had originally planned to fly to the islands for their holidays.

Violence has been minimal, and the tourism industry and tourist zones are almost unaffected. Yet, according to the Under-Secretary of Tourism in Madrid, Señor Ignacio Aguirre, there were several cancellations from fear. One photograph of a policeman clubbing a demonstrator in Barcelona, published in New York, caused the cancellation of 20 charter flights, according to Señor Aguirre. He appealed to newsmen to tell the world that tourists are as safe in Spain today as they ever were.

If tourists do stay away, they will be missing a bargain. With the pickings slim, hotel managers are holiday-bungry, cutting prices to the bone, offering better holiday buys than ever. And tourists still have the advantage of the Canaries' free-port facilities, with items such as cameras, recorders and whisky available at prices that cannot be matched in mainland Europe. Spain or elsewhere in the world.

The almost perpetual sunshine of these "fortunate islands", of course, is an added attraction which few other holiday resorts can do so under the post-Franco Government and in view of their distance from the capital and their special circumstances.

Whistle-stop tour



said to have set sail from the main town of San Sebastián on his voyage of discovery to America. He would be conquerors and colonists alike have tended to pass Gomera by.

Even the tourist boom in the Canaries did not seem likely to affect the island, which preferred to remain a mysterious outpost on the horizon, 15 miles from busy Tenerife.

All that was changed four years ago when the Spanish Government built an attractive and traditionally-styled 35-room *parador* (state-run hotel) above the harbour in San Sebastián, and when one of Gomera's most famous residents decided to make the island more accessible.

The man in question was Norwegian shipowner Fred Olsen, who has a holiday home on Gomera which he visits several times a year. It is no accident that a smart new ferry now makes the 30-minute crossing from the Tenerife port of Los Cristianos to Gomera four times a day—and that the ferry is operated by a special subsidiary of Fred Olsen Lines, Fred Olsen Lines. Fred Olsen Lines has also introduced in Britain a special series of two-centre Canary Islands holidays, which include a stay on Gomera, at prices from about £250.

Such holidays carry an almost certain guarantee that you will see and hear *el silbo* being used, for even if you miss it in the streets of San Sebastián there are regular demonstrations of this strange whistling language in the grounds of the *parador*.

It is a shrill, almost piercing, whistle of varying intensity and hard to describe. But some say that this oddity of the Canary Islands' customs resembles—most fittingly—the sound of a canary in full song.

Robin Mead

It looks like it, but no—the name given to the whistling language of Gomera is *el silbo*. It is far more than just a summons, or a method of attracting attention. *El silbo* has developed to a point where it is possible to address someone by name and give complicated orders to, say, a village shop. Experts can even identify the brand of goods they want, and be understood. And in the hills, many people can identify who is doing the whistling even though he is not visible. This may be because each

labourer or goatherd. It is far more efficient than shouting, for the sound carries for more than a mile. But it is far more than just a summons, or a method of attracting attention. *El silbo* has developed to a point where it is possible to address someone by name and give complicated orders to, say, a village shop. Experts can even identify the brand of goods they want, and be understood. And in the hills, many people can identify who is doing the whistling even though he is not visible. This may be because each

whistler uses a different technique: some people put two fingers in their mouth and others use simply their lips and tongue. Each word is relayed separately but as *el silbo* grew up as a country practice the best whistlers are usually to be found in the fertile hills and valleys of central Gomera. Until recently the whistling language was seldom heard by visitors. The islanders long had a reputation as the toughest in the Canaries (they have remained the most ethnically pure of the Guanche people), and although Columbus is

Make yourself at home.



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Accommodation ranges from simple taverna to 4 bedroomed residence with private pool, prices from £64 for 7 nights to £158 for 14. With under-two's free, 2-11's at £9 off apiece and appropriate reductions according to size of party.

Return flight and maid service, gas and electricity, linen and laundry, even a hamper of food are all included.

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Traditional costumes of Spain.



Costumes play a great part in Spain's way of life. The traveller today will be struck by the pride which the Spanish take in their traditions and the joy with which they react to their centuries-old music.

You will see both of these portrayed in the gay and fiery dresses of dancers celebrating their romerias, ferias and fiestas, their processions and passion plays; and by the simple and modish riding costumes of their caballeros and horse-women.

But acquiring an equally traditional role are the costumes which the visitor will see throughout this vast and varied country. These are worn by the underwater fishermen of the Costa Brava, by the skiers in the Pyrenees and Sierra Nevada (to name but two of the many skiing localities); by the golfers throughout the country, by lovers of sun and sea and by the sporting fishermen of the Asturias and Galicia.

Join them this year in Spain.

Spain

of contrast

The Spanish National Tourist Office, 70 Jermyn Street, London SW1

constant demand of the military leaders in Lebanon for solidarity with them. The Maronite militias thus found its unity, and of the country.

THE NEUTRALISM OF SOUTH-EAST ASIA

David Wood

Grove Strauss, Father of the searching his long memory rliament and Labour's left n BBC radio the other days, and the Tribune Group as well as the House of Commons. It is of correct. It was out of a tinge sense of weakness, not aght, that the group mounted monstration of opposition to Government's economic strategy, a brutal close of the on the cuts in public expenditure-programmes from 1971-73. lay, at the close of the con e debate, its weakness was d variously by the brutality of the Government's strategy, b efin for the very policies repressed 24 hours earlier, by the ed resignation of three PPSs, y the appointment of another e Group member to the post which Miss Joan Lester o; only in the national exccmmittee of the Labour Party are sub-committees that the le Group continues to exert th and influence nowadays. h that suggests it continues to wide support in party back nd constituency parties, there reasons behind that first ions may be illusory. The powerful trade union leaders o directly allied with, or into, government; and it is ile that the most militant la constituency parties to get the Tribune Group to the hands of activists who to the end of it.

The group takes its name from g, the weekly journal with Aneurin Bevan and Michael were prominently associated to which, Hugh Gaitskell put mplain, George Strauss put in for the first 20 postwar years. He had no political realisation for politicians and cutators who needed to know the Labour left was thinking,

struttenly management and the absence of idealism rather than in find a forum for expressing it. Extending the group's membership after the influx of new MPs in the two general elections of 1974 has probably weakened Tribune's radical thrust.

Prominent among the Tribune Group members who provide the effective leadership (though not the chairmanship, which passes round annually) are resurgent communists, dating from Stalin's days, and well trained Marxists - But essentially the group is leaderless, or left with the uncertainty and disputed decisions of joint leadership. Most of the drive comes from highly educated trade unionists like Eric Rafter, Norman Atkinson, rather than unimpeachably expert parliamentarians like Ian Mikardo or intellectuals like Jack Mendelson. But a new generation of Tribune men is beginning to assert its influence, of the calibre of John Gummer, a barrister who knows that a quiet well-developed argument carries further than a soap-box shout. Tribune Group's decline in influence should certainly not be attributed to a fall in dialectical standards.

The weakness of the group is partly to be explained by Mr Wilson's skill in neutralising its potential power and influence. It is not within my knowledge that Mr Wilson indirectly proscribed the formation of the Tribune Group, the Tribune Group, countervailing rival for power in the Parliamentary Labour Party, but I should not be astonished to learn that he did. What he assuredly did was make a pact with Mr Jack James and a few other magnates of the TUC to ensure that it remain his handmaiden, as it has been since 1968 and 1969, by an alliance of trade union leaders and a section of the Labour left in the P.L.P. He brought the general council of the TUC into the heart

at that point, at the time of the purty, continued in the Wilson C of share p, failure to pay many member of the ur new, fib at Cam Mr Jones, at the general workes country, has set Communist Party of Mr Heffer, Mr Mikardo to obje the workers

Nor is Mr Foot collaborator with Callaghan, Mr Heffer, Mr Jack James, Mr Cassel, Mr Jones keep their Trib places, and believ Mr Stanley Ormonde aid yet a com ite of State in the Office gets the charge of Jackson bers, has no per conscience in acc Education and S Miss Lester - em Mrs Hart, Mr Buchanan they may opt out of respect the back benches point to those w removed, the natural leader; rest to conquer.

Yet, in the enasure of politio and the Labour altogether ignore abentions last one aspect of C traps our will Budget, are they happened.

Wilson has the the bip, and has been. But weakness of the e knows, is that it to tell the story may not always

A military coup in the only democratic Arab country is of course a sad event. But the existing situation was not merely sad, but desperate, and the authors of the coup were clearly in earnest in seeking to rescue whatever could be rescued of the system rather than to destroy it. The choice of General al-Abdab as leader—a Muslim but a man with good right-wing connections and an impeccably Lebanese background—was a wise move over an intelligent one. He has won the support, or at least the consent, of a much wider spectrum of Lebanese political, military and paramilitary forces than most observers would have thought possible.

ASIA

of government, succeeding where Mr Heath attempted and failed: and

he then deprived the Tribune Group of its natural leader, Michael Foot, the only conceivable inheritor of Nye Bevan's mantle. With Mr Foot as Secretary of State for Employment, and Mr Jones as the man sharing some power and responsibility with him for economic and industrial strategy, Mr Wilson had nothing to fear from the Tribune Group.

At Mr. Pugh's appeal his solicitor, continues: willing to serve in the Wilson Cabinet and carry his full share of the collective responsibility, then they decided any other arrangement with the Tribune was out of the question. They were now, just at Cabinet decisions? If Mr. Jones, at the head of the largest of general workers' union in the country, has set his imprimatur on Government economic policy, who are Mr. Heffer, Mr. Addison, and Mr. Lester to object in the name of the workers?

Mr. H. Foot is the only left-wing collaborator with Mr. Wilson, Mr. Callaghan, Mr. Bealey, and Mr. Roy Jenkins, inside the Cabinet. Mr. Castle, Mr. Benn, Mr. John Silkin all keep their Tribune allotment of places, and below the Cabinet line Mr. Stanley Ornatt, a member of the House of Commons, Minister of State in the Northern Ireland Office, gets on with his work. Miss Margaret Jackson, a Tribune member, has no perceptible qualms of conscience in accepting the post of Education and Science from which Miss Lester emotionally resigned.

Mr. Hart, Mr. Heffer, Mr. Norman Buchton, they may all be allowed to opt out of responsibility, go to the back benches. Mr. Wilson, however, those who stayed. He has removed the Tribune Group's natural leader; he has divided the front to conquer.

ture, in the end, it is not in the nature of politics that Mr Wilson and the Labour Cabinet should altogether ignore the Tribune Group abstentions last week. More than one aspect of Cabinet policy, perhaps, not wholly excluding the Budget, may be different because they happened. For the present, Mr Wilson has the Tribune Group by the hip, and a skilful operation it has been. But the fundamental weakness of the group, Mr Wilson said, is that it cannot buy itself off the Labour Government. That may not always be true.

From Lord Duverton.

St. The private woodland is represented by the Timber Group. Organizations are in full sympathy with the idea and suggest forward by Dame Sylvia C. C. letter (March 12). The hope that the enthusiasm spread by National Trust will be maintained on as many as possible.

While their interest is in nature rather than in arboriculture in woods rather than in trees, their aim too is to secure the services of, and many of the landowners are generously, to amenity planning directly and through the support of the National Trust.

At the same time, the 1975 Finance Act provides that timber which is potentially fire destructive to English woods owned by the Church and the National Trust shall be exempted from the proposed Capital Transfer Tax. The 1975 Finance Act makes provisions for the payment of C. woodlands to be postponed until the Government has decided whether the timber is and its value realized. But provisions apply only to timber which is Dedicated—and we must understand that timber excluded from the Dedication scheme.

Thus all timber in small copes and spinneys—and here we must understand that immediately upon the death of the owner, and there will be a strong motive on the part of the executor or the successor to sell the timber and pay off the mortgage, not only on itself, but also on the rest property.

In these days of high land prices, much of the cover is at risk. The trees facing us in the lowland landscape quickly be determined by the product of generations of husbandry — will be destroyed by the removal of habitat. The importance that the possible importance that the provisions which allow the possible of CIT on trees should be restricted to Dedicated woods but should be extended to all whether in Dedicated woods.

Yours faithfully,
Nigel R. Thompson,
The Timber Growers' Organisation,
National Agricultural Centre,
Kemworth, Warwickshire.
March 12.

From Mr. C. H. Gibbs-Smith

Sir, I am sure that many people
myself included--will support
St. Johnstone's plea for
March 12, to let police and
remain in the bands of the
Anything which might ad
affect the morale of the
should be avoided at all costs
law and order itself will the
of the police force. I am
versely. We have by far the
police forces in the world, s
preserve that well-deserved
tion, we must put up with an
sional slip-up in the discipli
process. After all, medical d
it in judgment on such a
of the police force. I am
I am sure that the police
just as keen on preserving
reputation as doctors are, s
bring in question the hooes
senior police officers, as the
posed legislation would app
Yours faithfully,
CHARLES H. GIBBS-SMITH
c/o The Royal Aeronautical Soc
4 Hamilton Place, W.I.
March 12.

From Mt John Cox

Sir, With reference to your letter (March 10) under the heading "The Choir School of St. Edmund's," I would like to welcome Mr. Bill Devlin's comments on our announcement that selected Canterbury boys have the outstanding ability to continue the government's blessing of the choir school. It is gratifying to know that you are so much in accord with us in our conviction that the closure of the choir schools at Chester and Canterbury, no alternative arrangements were made for the selection and education of choristers. The Canterbury School of the Dean and Chapter have continued to train choristership on the residential basis and have held their annual voice trials held in the Cathedral Precincts. The boys chosen are now educating at the choir school of St. Edmund's Canterbury, but still live in the Cathedral Precincts, in the high building previously occupied by the old Choir School. St. Edmund's Choir School is a member of the choir school association, and indeed, one of those 36 choir schools mentioned by Mr. Devlin.

Here in Canterbury we certainly agree with relief the Minister's statement about safeguarding selected boys for the choir school.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN COX, The Master,
St Edmund's Junior School,
Canterbury.
March 10.

From Mr John C. McGuire

I was detained for several
 times today (March 9), the
 decision is being taken at the
 Supreme Court of Justice regarding
 the suspension of women public ser-
 vants who retired before the enactment
 of equal pay.
 I recently took up this matter
 with my own authorities, pointing
 out that, if equal pay is now accepted
 as a just provision, it was so
 when the women were hired. The re-
 sult of this plea has been practically
 a complete denial.
 The initial cost of this adjustment
 of pensions would be very small and
 would rapidly and progressively
 diminish, since many of those
 concerned are already over 80 years
 of age. Their number is small but
 the need is great.
 I am sure your obedient servant
 JOHN C. MCGUIRE, Jr.
 1111 Westpole Avenue,
 Cockfosters, Barnet, Herts.

Labour left's economic priorities

From Mr. D. R. Harvey
Sir, Mr. Heffer's explanation (article

March 12) of the recent defection of left-wing MPs in the division of the country's political and lobby is evidence of his continuing obsession with the merits of public sector expansion to the exclusion of the free market and economic growth. The spokesman said that the government's response to the manifesto. At a time when the country barely has the wherewithal to buy bread, he urges us to eat more cake.

The country cannot afford a free health service or free education or subsidized services of much else. It is a country that has to pay for its insistence upon having these benefits without earning them; has loaded us with foreign debts of daunting size. We are a few steps away from having to borrow to pay for them, and this is the short road to ruin.

In such a predicament, we must plainly create more than we consume, sell more than we buy, and earn more than we spend. Only the productive sector of the economy can do this. It is absolutely essential to discharging our indebtedness and enabling us to afford at least some of the higher

From the General Secretary of the
Institute of Journalists

Sir, The *Journalists' General Secretary of the National Union of Journalists* (March 12) apparently invites us to believe that the actions of its Barmley branch were nothing more than an innocent exchange of ideas between two groups of unionists, with no ulterior motives, and no exercise with no motive other than communication for its own sake. He does not offer even this or any other explanation of why such an apothical branch of his union should also have approached the local borough council. However, the Barmley branch secretary at least has no illusions about what he is doing. He wrote to the editor of the *Barmley Chronicle* on February 22, 1978, that he argued that the council approached him had been asked to "withdraw their cooperation from non-union journalists".

interfereoce with their legitimate

rightly. Our actual words were: "These organizations cooperate with the trade union movement, and we do not understand that for so long as they maintain a ban, information about their activities will have to come from other sources which may well be either inadequately informed or hostile, or both."

When Morgan really did express it as a newspaper took this attitude towards a Conservative-controlled local authority which refused to talk to an accredited municipal correspondent who was a member of the NUJ but was suspected of being a Tory, I said: "If not, what is the difference?"

Elsewhere you report that Mr Morgan assured the Royal Commission on the Press that under no circumstances would the union take any action to restrict the freedom of the press. I do not question his good faith now any more than I did when he gave similar assurances about a year ago which were promptly repudiated by his union's annual delegate meeting.

But I do not see how it can be now that I was then—that be, anyone else, feels able to commit the NUJ with such confidence.

The union's recent history includes decisions by postal vote reversed by delegate meetings, the reversal of a decision by the National Executive reversed or varied by both. The latest volte-face is a request to the ADM to restore with variations the special class of membership for editors that it abolished with every sign of deep regret in 1962.

It is difficult not to suspect that much of this continual turnabout is prompted by the NUJ's desire to present a reassuring image while the trade union legislation is being

From Professor Claudio Valiz

Sir, The Chairman of the British Library Board (March) has been asked by the following 120 universities, learned societies and other organizations "on the projected abandonment of the Great Russell Street site. He has found most of the answers. If he now consults, as he brought to, the opinions of the individual flesh and blood scholars who make use of the Reading Room he will find that they are almost unanimously in favour of the present arrangement (March 6).

It is legitimate to fear that in times of financial difficulty corporate societies such as those consulted will be tempted to be tempted into approving any scheme that promises to make available alternative facilities for their otherwise deprived members. At least, however, it is possible that the majority of those individual scholars who make regular use of the Reading Room and for whom this unique library was originally intended should be given as much weight as the views of the 120 given by Lord Eccles to those 120 organizations.

Corporate entities such as those consulted by the Chairman at the British Library Board and as the Reading Room (now known as the Reference Division of the British

From Mt Colin C. Geerres

Sir, in his letter to *The Times* to date (March 10) Mr Hinton doesn't merely miss the point but manufactures a straw man argument. He says that "the police, the probationary organizations and the judiciary" are similar to his become too closely identified with their view of the circumstances.

Of course we do not advocate sentencing policies that do not cater for rehabilitation but he makes a completely false statement by saying we have no hope to deter at least some criminals nor yet at recidivist stage from committing crime for fear, yes fear of imprisonment.

Surely it is a common sense view that parole wardens can receive the best and most "transparent" opinion we believe is shared by the

"From Mr Alan Beith, Liberal M

Berwick upon Tweed
Sir, Professor Huxley's letter (1880) denouncing the common

integration" argument against Northern Ireland its fair of MPs at Westminster. Even indefensible is the argument by Mr. Rees in the House of Commons as recently as Friday (March 5), when he based his motion to increase representation on the fact that in the past Sinn Féin MPs refused to attend the United Kingdom Parliament.

That collective punishment is to be visited upon the whole electors of Northern Ireland because what a few Republicans represent is a minority within the majority of 29 years ago is monstrous.

An increase in the number of seats will not, of course, enable itself that the two communities in the constituency are strange and alien to each other. In Northern Ireland are fairly represented. Without proportional representation for minister elections the results will continue to bear as little regard to the wishes of the voters of Northern Ireland as they do to the rest of the United Kingdom.

I am, Sir, Yours faithfully,
ALAN BEITH
House of Commons,
March 9.

From Mr. Jack Bantock . . .
Six Mrs. Loxley's letter stri

when a man becomes a clergyman he must make material sacrifice not only for himself but also on behalf of his wife and children. His wife might be said to be in the situation of her own free choice though it is doubtful whether a young bride, she can really understand what she is letting herself in for. His children have no say in the matter at all.

A lone celibate priest amidst
frugal circumstances may well
resent his condition; his poverty
could even be a special source
of inspiration to others. But ce-
libacy is not given to all men and
the Church of England does not re-
quire it. That being so, there should
be a reasonable extra provision for the
special responsibilities.

The long term answer may be different kind of ministry altogether. In the meantime we have vicarage families creating a big problem. A needy gentility will do the church no good. The fathers are sensitive men and the mothers are not. The family life is being hampered by financial anxiety, and in many cases children are going through a perience which will turn against Christianity in later life.

Mrs. Somerville is right. We must somehow give a bit of our life to the vicar. We see it direct into vicarage pockets, about church family allowance and to the vicar's wife?

Yours truly,
JACK BANTOCK,
1 Heathcote Road,
St Margarets,
Twickenham, Middlesex.
March 10.

From the Rev R. O. H. Eppings
Sir, Your readers ought to
know that the Association of the
was formed in 1974 to bring
pressure to bear on the Faith
pay them more money. At any
this is all the rest of us have
been able to find out.

The General Secretary's letter to the poverty of the clergy (2/11) is unrepresentative and, I expect, quite unwelcome by nine of ten priests. He is also ignorant if we were insured as "employees" the Church Commissioners would have to pay the employer's portion which would then have to be deducted from our wages.—I believe the Church Commissioners have been quite brilliant concerning the increase of interest with increase of capital.

Finally I believe, the labour
worthy of his hire: and if w
wanted, they, our parishioners
give us what we need: and
are not wanted: why should
pay us? Anyway God calls
and the daily bread will be
coming.
Yours truly,
R. O. H. FPFINGSTONE,
Clovelly Rectory,
Bideford.
North Devon,
March 11.

From Mr Esmond Bulmer, Conservative MP for Kidderminster

Sir, Roald Burt (column, M-11) defines industrial democra

the provision of a framework of custom or law for giving force to the sense of responsibility towards, and belonging to, the community, and hence to the organizations, in which they are engaged.

What Conservative would dissent from the intention behind much he might argue over the means.

You recently published testaments by the Goulds Harris organization which show that on 10th March 1910 he believed that profits made by his company benefited himself did not make the connexion between profit and job security, high wages, future investment, proper pensions, nor relate the tax which those profits paid to the whole range of social services. What an indictment of man's greed, but what an indication of the flims that could accrue to the servative Party from the growing understanding through participation.

Yours faithfully,
ESMOND BULMER,
House of Commons.
March 12.

From Mr J. D. Jones

Sir, Crumbling statuary at
Acropolis (*The Times*, March 12)
If this continues, perhaps we
expect the late Lord Elgin to
be colonized even by the Greeks
hero of classical archaeology.
Yours faithfully,
J. D. JONES, Curator,
Cardisbrooke Castle Museum,
Newport, Isle of Wight.
March 12

Management

Edited by Rodney Cowton

The changing face of time

The Trafalgar Watch Company was a prime mover when it was formed six years ago, in the retailing revolution which took watches out of the confines of the "specialised" jewellers' trade outlets and into the supermarkets and other mass distribution stores.

Willy Herrmann, Trafalgar's chairman, can now claim to be the largest distributor in this country of low-priced Swiss watches, with a prospective turnover this year of about £6.5m. He is selling some 750,000 annually to Tesco alone.

Now Trafalgar are gearing up for what looks like being the biggest shake-up in the industry for half a century—the digital watch revolution. Traditional watchmakers, like the Swiss, have been playing down this development from the semiconductor business in the United States as a passing fad. But it is fast becoming apparent that even Swiss companies, late in the day, are looking either to partnership deals with the Americans or semiconductor company takeovers to acquire the technology.

The Japanese, the other main manufacturer of traditional watch parts, have been almost equally slow to jump on the digital bandwagon, although they are better placed domestically than the Swiss to take advantage of semiconductor technology.

Last year, there were not enough digital watches to go round—as the semiconductor giants, seeing digital watches as the next big market for their technology after hand-held calculators, turned towards mass-production. Mr Herrmann says not enough were coming into the United Kingdom, except for odd batches, to allow consistent marketing to develop until last autumn.

Tesco put 20,000 on their shelves then at just under £30 each and were sold out in a few days. By Easter digital watches from Trafalgar will be in their stores again, this time at "well under £20"—probably rather less than £18.

One American estimate on digital sales is that while out of 220 million watches made worldwide last year, only 3.5 million were digital, by 1980 this type will account for 90 million out of a total of 320 million, or some 28 per cent of the market. The United Kingdom digital market in 1980 is put at 4 million units worth £4m.

When last year's average digital watch price was £90, this year it should be half that and by 1980 it is expected to stand at £12.

Mr Herrmann estimates likely United Kingdom digital sales this year at 1 million, with Trafalgar accounting for half of them. He thinks digital watches at £25 retail are not too far away for this country, with sales inevitably rising further.

The high breakthrough, he believes, would be an improvement in battery technology which would allow digital watches with LED (light emitting diode) displays to show information all the time instead of only at the push of a button.

The digital watch operates basically with three components: an integrated circuit, a quartz crystal which vibrates, in most watches, at 32,768 cycles per second. An integrated circuit consolidates the vibrations into a pulse which is then used to accumulate the pulses to compute minutes, hours and days (in some watches even giving times in alternative time zones).

The integrated circuit then transmits its signals to the display like an electronic calculator. LED displays are those most used, although some digital watches employ liquid crystal displays. These have a permanent display. Liquid crystal displays, however, have not been as discernible as LED in some difficult light conditions, although some improvements have been made.

Mr Herrmann, a one-time jewellery trade wholesaler, built his watch business by buying in from Switzerland watch movements which the Swiss by then had equipped themselves

to mass-produce. He reckons that by putting watches into impulse-buying areas like supermarkets, the multiples and outlets like newsagents the market has been increased by 33 per cent in the United Kingdom in the past six years. The development of pillar-proof stands was a turning point, especially with the big stores.

When last year he decided that he ought to get into digital watches, the problem was a consistent supply of fully developed internal modules. In October he did a deal with National Semiconductor, the United States company which had been the first major semiconductor maker to enter the watch market. Supplies started coming through in January.

The internal module components are manufactured in California, are shipped to Bangkok for assembly as modules and arrive at Trafalgar's assembly works in Mill Hill, in London, to be marked with Swiss cases, Hongkong bracelets and batteries made in New York.

Mr Herrmann admits that the digital watch has still to prove itself not to be a passing fad. He is already taking of going into the market with a calculated risk in this new market. The same applies to export markets, which he also has in his sights. Arguably Trafalgar, which is already taking of going into the market with a calculated risk in this new market. The same applies to export markets, which he also has in his sights. Arguably Trafalgar, which is already taking of going into the market with a calculated risk in this new market.

Derck Harris

LWT profits from putting its staff in the picture

London Weekend Television has long practical experience of the now fashionable concept of worker consultation. Even in its early stormy days, after its formation in 1968 when the independent television network was restructured, LWT had informal consultative machinery for discussions between its 1,100 workers and management.

In the last six months or so, the machinery has been strengthened until it is starting to deal in depth with the weightier aspects of the company's operation. One of the latest topics on the agenda has been how ownership of shares in the company by employees can best be achieved.

It has not yet come up with an answer on how the TUC's recommendations to the Government's Bullock Inquiry on industrial democracy could be implemented, but at least, LWT believes, the machinery is in place to debate the subject constructively.

As yet, no action has resulted from the deliberations of LWT's new Staff Advisory Committee, but the improvement in communications has undoubtedly led to better labour relations and easier introduction of new equipment. Outside the scope of the committee are matters which concern individual staff members or those such as pay and working conditions dealt with by the union negotiating procedures.

Staff representation on the 15-strong committee is made up of two elected shop stewards from each of three unions involved with LWT, together with two representatives of management. The management side, headed by John Freeman, LWT chairman (who also chairs the committee), consists of all five executive directors and the company secretary.

The committee meets every four weeks and full minutes are displayed on notice boards and distributed to the non-executive directors.

Before the meeting a management report is sent to all members. Each can prepare a written circular and discuss it in advance. In this way, actual discussion time is kept down to between 15 and 2 hours.

A feature of each meeting is a presentation of up-to-date accounts showing in fair detail why and how much the company has made a profit or loss during that period. Also discussed are planned expenditure on new equipment and changes proposed in the numbers of staff in any department.

Idiosyncratic programmes are also welcomed and discussed, as is the latest position in advertising sales. LWT's main source of revenue. Criticisms of LWT's original Joint Consultative Committee, headed by Victor Gardiner, LWT's general manager, are that it was too casual and that it gave too much attention to minor problems like "soggy canteen chips" and public holiday allowances.

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FINANCIAL NEWS AND MARKET REPORTS

A plea for foreign warrants, Plessey, A TV, House of Fraser

Last week's plunge in sterling makes Plessey, Thomas Clarke's latest service for clients look well-timed. It has started monitoring foreign warrants regularly, pointing out that they can provide a useful hedge against sterling devaluation.

From nearly 500 warrants listed on stock exchanges throughout the world, Sternberg goes for those which have been institutionally marketable.

The top recommendations are Bayer, Hoechst, Temeco, USMC, Westcott Transmission and International Investment Trust. Sternberg claims that all these warrants combine the relative safety of a long life with attractive subscription terms; all are potentially at the "take-off" stage.

Bullishness bubbles from Rowe & Pitman, Hunt-Brown's latest report, Equity prospects generally remain good—perhaps very good, it says, and the broker recommends shares in manufacture, exporting, technology, and producer goods.

A list of recommended purchases includes Barclays Bank, Beecham, Courtaulds, EMI, the majority of its income from Union Miniere and presents a means of obtaining overseas income without paying the investment currency premium.

Williams de Ruwe Hill Chaplin is still recommending cautious towards shares in view of poor prospects for sales growth and pressures on margins.

However, Boots, with strong growth prospects in the main Boots Chemist division is a recommended purchase, as is House of Fraser in view of its improved operating efficiency and potential market share growth.

But the broker recommends unloading W. H. Smith, UDS and R. W. Norton.

McNally, Montgomery points to strong profits potential at Tunnel Holdings for the 18 months following the current half year. It recommends purchases.

Buckmaster & Moore say Plessey has lagged behind the market for a long time. With strong prospects for recovery in 1977 the shares appear cheap on a medium term view.

The broker makes particular mention of Tanks. It receives

the majority of its income from Union Miniere and presents a means of obtaining overseas income without paying the investment currency premium.

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Brokers' views

Just beating previous results. It recommends the shares in view of the rapidly expanding film interests. The benefits of this are expected to show in profits during the next two years.

Quintel, Goodson reckons UK Mining Finance Houses still have their attractions after the previous week's overreaction to the news from Mozambique.

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Buckmaster & Moore say Plessey has lagged behind the market for a long time. With strong prospects for recovery in 1977 the shares appear cheap on a medium term view.

Cope Allman first half-year profits more than halved

Although group sales of Cope Allman International rose from £53.57m to £55.42m in the half year to December 31, pre-tax profits were more than halved to £1.62m, against £3.56m last time. This is in line with the chairman's indication at the annual meeting.

The board reports that a large part of the decline in profitability was at Cope's International packaging operations where sales were "well down" in volume terms as a result of destocking by customers and margins were under "severe pressure" due to cost inflation and price controls.

Although price controls are still with the group, the drastic destocking appears to have ended and to date the second half has shown a positive improvement in the level of order books in most of the operations where activity has been depressed over the last 12 months.

Subject to this improvement continuing and to the final outcome of the currency movements now taking place, the board expects second-half profits to be considerably in excess of the similar period of 1975.

The board intends to recommend a total dividend for the year of 4.32p gross (3.92p), which is the maximum permitted. An interim of 1.54p gross (1.53p) is being paid.

Capeaks, (a subsidiary of Cope) reports that turnover fell in cash which will be partly financed from the proceeds of an issue and placing with investment institutions of 750,000 Cope ordinary shares at 96p per share.

James Crean Limited has acquired eight UK companies comprising the Wade Group. Wade are manufacturers' agents and wholesalers of electrical products for industry. The purchase consideration is £1,250,000.

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BP, BICC Kleinwort and Lesney all report

TODAY: Interim—Chambers & Parsons, Sotherst & Pitt. Final—T. F. & J. H. Braine, Broux Eng, Crossley Building, Brox, Isle of Man Enterprises, Lamber Howarth, C. H. Johnson & Sons, Lesney Road, Palling Rubber Estate, Rofford Stadium, Rugby Portland Cement, and Sangamo Weston.

TUESDAY: Interim—Ductile Steels, Electric & General Inv, and Rediffusion Television. Final—BICC, Boddingtons Breweries, Bury & Paper, Corah, East Lancashire, Jones & Brown, Kleinwort Benson, Lonsdale, Mercantile Inv, Panos, and Trade Indemnity.

WEDNESDAY: Interim—Bojani, Brooke Bond, Liebig and J. D. & S. Rivlin Hides, Robert M. Douglas, Second City Props, South West Africa, Television, and Walsley Hughes.

THURSDAY: Interim—Beaverbrook Newspapers, East Rand Cons, Johnsons, Firth Brown, Kuduana, Syndicate, Patterson Zochs, and P. J. & S. Rivlin Hides, Robert M. Douglas, Second City Props, South West Africa, Television, and Walsley Hughes.

FRIDAY: Interim—Banks (Suisse), Cableform, Consolidated Plantations, and Vincent (Harry). Final—Alcan, Aluminium UK, British Titan, Lex Services, Oliver Roy, and George Spencer.

Following the almost halved profits of 1974-75, Lister & Co, Bradford, textile manufacturer, fell into the red in the half-year to September 30.

With turnover contracting from £13.7m to £12.28m, a pre-tax profit of £528,000 was turned into a loss of £249,000. The loss was after charging depreciation of £264,000 and interest of £280,000 (£287,000).

In view of the results, the board has decided to pay an interim dividend (1.34p gross last time), but to await the full year's figures before deciding the amount of the final dividend (2.42p last time).

Economic factors have been making the second half still proved difficult. It was hoped that the steps taken would show a "material reduction" in the rate of loss.

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Travel agents ready to defend package tour price structure

By Patricia Tisdall

Travel agents fear that a damaging holiday price war could break out if resale price maintenance were dropped as a result of new moves to abolish restrictive trading practices in the service industries. The Association of British Travel Agents' rules restrict members from making cut-price holiday offers.

This and other ABTA rules are to come under scrutiny by the Office of Fair Trading and the Restrictive Practices Court set up to decide whether or not restrictions are in the public interest. Deadlines for registration of trading agreements in the service industries was set at June 21 by Mr John Methven, the Director-General of Fair Trading, last week.

Meanwhile, the Travel Agents Study Council of the ABTA has passed a recommendation that "every effort" should be made to retain fixed prices.

The ABTA is afraid that price competition would force its members to carry more risk.

The likely effect of the abolition of price control, as identified by the TASC, is that large travel chains would "bulk buy" holiday allocations from tour operators on a non-returnable basis at a discount price.

In return they and not the operator would carry the risk of not filling their holiday quota. Agents argue that other prices could be artificially inflated to give large apparent cut-price offers.

The agents also fear that tour operators will move outside specialist holiday retailers to sell holidays through, for example, retail chains' promotion houses. ABTA's existing rules forbid retailers to mix the sale of holidays with other products.

Other practices likely to come under questioning by the OFT concern the commission rates given to travel agents by holiday operators.

Tour operators are considering whether or not to fight back if the eventual decision of the Restrictive Practices Court goes against them.

Tin Council agrees to ease export quotas and raise floor levels

By Wallace Jackson

Commodities Editor

After five days of meetings in London, the International Tin Council has decided to continue, but ease, export quotas and to revise floor and ceiling prices.

In a communiqué at the weekend the council said, first, that it had decided to "lift immediately from 32,000 tonnes to 32,885 total permissible exports during the current quarter, which runs to March 31. No breakdown for the extra 885 tonnes has yet been issued.

The quarter from April 1 is to be an export control period with a total permissible tonnage of 35,000. The allocations in tonnes, with current quarter allocations in brackets, are: Australia 1,530 (1,399); Bolivia 6,321 (5,779); Indonesia 4,798 (4,387); Malaysia 15,260 (13,952); Nigeria 1,460 (1,334); Thailand 4,392 (4,016) and Zaïre 1,239 (1,133).

On new floor and ceiling prices the ITC said that the new floor price is to be 950

Malaysian dollars per picul (133½ lb) against the existing \$M950. The lower sector will be \$M950-1,000 (against 900-980); the middle sector \$M1,000-1,050 (980-1,040) and the upper sector \$M1,050-1,100 (1,040-1,100).

Under ITC rules the buffer stock manager must buy tin if the price is at the floor level. He may buy or sell in the lower sector, but must remain a net buyer. He acts in the middle range only under ITC direction. In the upper sector he may buy or sell, but must remain a net seller.

Opinion on the London Metal Exchange was that while the "modifications" were broadly what had been expected, their effect on prices was likely to be totally negative. The changes were seen as a concession to the expectations of the populations of the exporting countries.

Although tin prices rose on Friday by £60 for high grade and £57.50 for standard, the rise was attributed to tightness of high grade metal and currency considerations.

Munich sets its sights on balanced growth

Regional industry in Europe

When it comes to economics the Bavarians sometimes like to portray themselves as the stepchildren of the central government in Bonn. As a state they say that they suffer to an above-average extent from regional and structural weaknesses, and that the Bonn government pays too little attention to their needs.

Their argument has much to commend it. Regionally Bavaria lies on the edge of the European Community. Commercially the state lost many of its traditional markets after the Second World War, and the 775-kilometre border with East Germany and Czechoslovakia is a formidable barrier.

Industrially, the Bavarians were late developers and it was only in the post-war years that West Germany's largest state began to change its character from a mainly agricultural land.

But at the same time, in Munich and its immediate surroundings there developed, particularly in the 1960s, a focus for some of the most advanced industry in West Germany.

Far from its traditional powerhouse in the Ruhr, its main artery the Rhine, and the North Sea ports with their easy access to export markets, Munich has developed into a leading centre of the electrical and electronics industries, is the home of one of Germany's fastest-growing car makers and

the main centre of the German aerospace industry.

The city and the surrounding area have come through the recession better than other parts of Bavaria and Germany as a whole. The unemployment rate, which in Germany stands at just under 6 per cent of the working population and in Bavaria at 7.5 per cent, is only 4.3 per cent in Munich.

Helping to keep it down has been the development of the city's infrastructure — which continued after the 1972 Olympic Games — and the broad base of Munich's industrial structure.

Last year, for example, as the electrical industry was drawn fully into the recession, the motor industry began a recovery. Both events were important for Munich. West Germany's largest electrical concern, Siemens, has been based in the city since the Second World War, and there are about 80 electrical plants there employing around 64,000 people.

The Bavarian capital is also the home of Bayerische Motoren Werke AG, which, while being the smallest of Germany's car makers, had an excellent year in 1975, raising production by 17 per cent and turnover by nearly a third to DM3,256m (£651m).

But it looks as if the recession will prove a decisive point in the development of Munich as elsewhere.

The rate of decline has so far been small when measured against Munich's population of 1.3 million. In 1974 the net outflow of people was around 10,000 and last year 4,500. But the city authorities, having seen the steady shrinking of the biggest German cities over the past few years, are determined to stem its flow.

Under the slogan "The City in Balance", Munich is trying to shift emphasis away from industry and commerce towards the individual.

It is taking a greater interest in the environment and intends to promote public transport systems such as its subway network rather than roads. Towards the end of last year Munich issued a directory of free industrial sites, not with the aim of attracting new industry to the city, but to encourage companies already based there to relocate to its edge.

In an attempt to prevent the city centre from becoming choked, the authorities are trying to establish new centres in outlying areas.

Even though the recession in West Germany now seems to be giving way to an upswing in the

economy, it looks as if for Munich the dynamic growth of the 1960s will remain a thing of the past. In today's conditions it is hard to imagine a development similar to that of the aerospace industry at Ottobrunn, on the city's southern outskirts.

In 1958, when Ludwig Boellkow shifted his plant from Stuttgart to Ottobrunn, he took 350 workers with him. Now Messerschmitt-Boellkow's complex in Ottobrunn employs about 2,140 scientists and technicians, and 6,000 workers, most of them highly-qualified.

The authorities today emphasise quality above quantity — a great quality of life for the city's inhabitants and more highly-qualified jobs, rather than simply an expansion of the industrial base.

Two things are running in their favour. Munich is without doubt one of the least mangled of the major German cities. Thanks to the foresight of the city authorities its centre has not been scarred by high-rise office blocks and, unlike Frankfurt, it is a pleasant place to be after seven in the evening.

Also, the industry that established itself in Munich and the surrounding area has turned out to be largely advanced-technology industry, which will continue to require highly-qualified personnel.

Peter Norman

Business appointments

Six board members of NatWest to retire

Six directors of National Westminster Bank are retiring. They are: Mr William Davidson, a deputy chairman; Lord Casella, Mr Ralph Elliott, Sir Frederick Harmer, Mr David Pollock and Mr David Roberts, who will not seek re-election at next month's annual meeting. Mr J. F. Robinson is retiring from the chairmanship of the south-west regional board but remains a regional director.

Sir John Saunders and Mr M. F. Garner have joined the board of Amalgamated Metals Corporation. Sir John will be a non-executive director. Mr Garner will, in due course, be appointed finance director in succession to Mr A. D. Stirling, who is to retire in Canada later this year.

Mr George White, joint managing director of Bovis Construction, is to take full charge of the company's expanding overseas operations and sales activities. Mr Reg Clark joins the board with special overseas responsibilities. Mr Harvey Davis has been made executive director in charge of United Kingdom sales and marketing. Mr Laurie Campbell and Mr Dave Johnson join the board.

Mr John D. Kilger has been appointed a director of Jones, Lang, Wootton SA, Belgium.

Mr K. A. Lane, Mr D. Sinclair and Mr J. W. Taylor have been named directors of Keeney and Trecker Marwin.

Mr F. H. Wilson has joined the board of Ferguson Industries Holdings.

Mr Christopher Waters has been made a director of University Computing Co (Great Britain).

Mr W. Short has been named managing director of J. Blakeborough & Sons.

Mr Eric Le Maître, Mr Roy Hughes and Mr Brian Yeats have joined the board of Robm and Reas (UK).

British Leyland has announced details of the new board of directors for Aveling & Porter, a member of the Leyland Special Products Group. The board comprises: Mr J. J. Abell, Chairman; Mr F. Clem, Managing Director; Mr J. Gifford, Sales Director; Mr W. Johnson, Technical Director; Mr R. McKinnon, Works Director; Mr E. J. Watson, Finance.

Holland's natural gas reserves show decrease

The Hague, March 14. — Holland's natural gas reserves totalled 2,348,500 million cubic metres at January 1, the Ministry of Economic Affairs announced. Two years ago the reserves stood at 2,428,500 million cubic metres.

In a letter accompanying a confidential report to the Dutch Parliament, the ministry said the proven reserves — were 1,751,600 million cubic metres and the unproven reserves 596,500 million cubic metres. Of this, 2,025,900 million cubic metres can be found in Holland's mainland and the remaining 322,400 million cubic metres in the Dutch part of the Continental Shelf.

The ministry said information would be published later this month on the exploration and exploitation of oil and natural gas in the mainland and Continental Shelf. — AP-Dow Jones.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Teaching children the facts of national life

From Vice-Admiral Sir David Chatterback

Sir, Recent articles and letters in your columns ascribe Britain's economic plight about equally to deficiencies in management, both in industry and within the trade unions, and to deficiencies in government. Which is in many ways the same thing. Your correspondents suggest that all this is rooted in the British educational system. If this is correct, and I think it is, we had better hurry, because reform may take a generation to produce results. But first one needs to know which parts of the system are at fault.

Certain features of it are outstandingly good, notably those connected with industrial management. Almost unnoticed, we have developed some of the best business schools in the world, an astonishing achievement in 10 years. While the contributions of university departments, regional management centres, polytechnics and other establishments offering management education up to postgraduate level are certainly better off in this respect than most of our competitors. But we shall not be able to exploit this advantage to the full until a fundamental defect elsewhere in the system is corrected, and nothing less than pedagogic reform on the scale attempted in the last century, and still alas incomplete, will suffice.

This defect is the absence from first, middle and secondary schools of any systematic attempt to teach children how the nation earns its living and how they can earn their own within it. In the process they might also learn that industry and commerce are respectable, as well as essential, and can be exciting and enjoyable; and they might become more resistant to anti-business propaganda at universities and elsewhere. The effectiveness of this propaganda can be attested by those members of the Business Graduates' Association who devote their spare time to speaking at universities in an effort to encourage young people to seek a career in industry and commerce.

Would there be time to teach such things to schoolchildren? I think that time must be found, even if it means harder and longer work by both children and teachers. Would it be against the true purposes of education and the best interests of children? I would suggest that industrial post-empire Britain has no choice. If we are not to go comprehensively broke, and not much time.

The lead must come from government. The business schools were set up as a deliberate act of policy. A similar act is urgently needed in the wider field. It might bring in an end the present largely irrelevant argument about the nature of schools, focusing attention instead on what is to be taught in them and on doing so helping to defeat the small but influential caucus of teachers of subversion who disgrace an honourable calling.

Yours faithfully, DAVID CHATTERBACK, Administrative Director, The Business Graduates' Association Limited, 87 Jermyn Street, London SW1Y 6JD, March 5.

From Mr J. W. Dodd

Sir, On February 4 you were kind enough to publish my letter on "Optimum Size of Firms". I should like to thank you for doing so, and through you, those who answered my questions, both through the medium of your columns and to me privately. It is obvious from this correspondence and Mr Wood's letter (March 2) that there is a point in the size of firms beyond which efficiency, profitability and harmony in industrial relations begin to deteriorate.

Efficiency appears to be at its best in smaller firms because the responsibility level is much nearer the shop floor, committees have not proliferated and the proportion of people (in relation to the total work force) who can say "yes", and mean it, is much larger than in a large integrated company. It would appear that, although there is little difference in output per head between the small and large concerns, capital expenditure per head is higher in the large firms. Thus, in general, the products of the small and medium sized firms are more competitive, a very vital factor when success in world's

markets is so essential to our economy.

All the correspondents seem to agree that industrial relations are very much better in the smaller units because the structure of authority is such that, in relationships between management and men, differences which arise are resolved much more easily and rapidly. Therefore there is less chance of disputes getting out of hand, negotiations becoming protracted and involved causing needless loss of production.

It is therefore obvious that, at a time when competition in world markets is so keen and when the "pandemic" tells us that there are signs of a revival in world trade, every avenue must be explored to ensure that our goods are produced at a competitive price by a work force that is both efficient and happy. It seems to me the "optimum size" is one of those avenues. How good to hear that the Chancellor of the Exchequer is encouraging the development of small factories in rural areas.

Yours truly, J. W. DODD, 14 The Elms, Colyton, Devon.

The building societies and old houses

From Mr W. J. R. Sir, Mr Knight's letter (25) fails to say whether the Building Societies should expect to restrict their advance those offering poor profit-making "successful trading".

The BSA claim 10 of their loans is granted to purchase dwellings built before the proportion of 1 sale that were built 1. Moreover, what ad societies make on su dies, if they will con at all? They save 90 per cent. But valuation. The nu usually left to find 2 to 25 per cent of the price.

Mr Knight really I am naive as we readers if he hope believe building societies just to dis created advice and draws. I return agents can do these did so very capably recent proliferation society offices.

It would be of I learn how many of can "pay out of pounds on demand" can why are three a normally required draws of more than thousands of pounds rather than by cheq Yours faithfully, W. J. R. SHEPHERD, 2 The Albany, Wotton Green, Essex, March 8.

From Mr Shanley Sir, I did not make attributed to me by (March 3), nor am any evidence to a assertion that the hotels to which were not built or which were built ceeded with only ba subsidy.

Mr Fraser should have pursued his f to its conclusion, which were fertile HDI scheme form tourist pond was not to hold them all; and none of the res is what would have balance of nature b disturbed by resort isomisation. Mor tion is best left to efforts of the male Yours sincerely, SEAN STEWART, The Old House, Willards Hill, Ectboghham, East Sussex, TN19 7 March 11.

A lesson on hotel developer

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How and where to boost your company's investment plans

Incentives for Industry
in the Areas for Expansion

Areas for Expansion

"Incentives for Industry" sets out the facts about the financial aid — grants for new buildings, plant and machinery, loans or interest relief grants, assistance with removal costs and much else that your company can qualify for in the Areas for Expansion.

"Areas for Expansion" tells you about the Areas and their facilities. It describes transport networks and business opportunities. It lists amenities and information about housing, education and recreation.

Both these booklets, which are free, give full details on all the Areas for Expansion. Send us the coupon, or telephone 01-211 6486 (24 hour answer service on 01-834 2026) for your copies.

To: The Industrial Expansion Team,
Department of Industry, Millbank Tower,
Millbank, London SW1P 4QU

Please send me full details of the benefits available in the Areas for Expansion

Name _____
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TIM 15/3G

The Areas for Expansion

ISSUED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRY

IN ASSOCIATION WITH THE SCOTTISH ECONOMIC PLANNING DEPARTMENT AND THE WELSH OFFICE.

Something in the centre...

The Stratford Centre is a logical place to move to — a view emphasised by the fact that the Morgan Guaranty Trust Company of New York has taken a lease on approximately 100,000 sq ft of modern air conditioned office accommodation for their new administrative headquarters. This view has been endorsed by the top retailers throughout the country, as the shopping centre is now fully let.

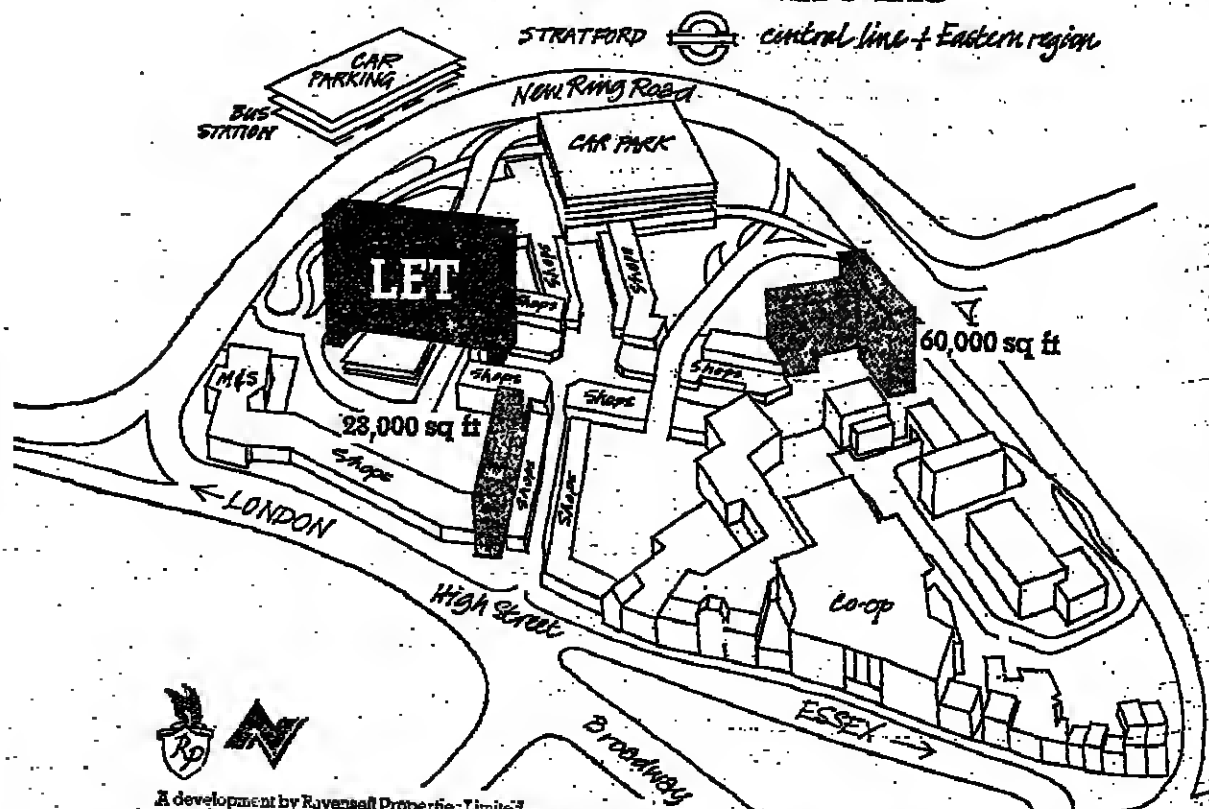
The centre which has been developed by Ravensell Properties Limited in partnership with the London Borough of Newham has transformed this part of East London and the Stratford Centre has consolidated this area into a major Commercial Community Centre

which is on the fringe of the city just 12 minutes from the Bank of England.

The Stratford Underground (Central Line) and main line British Rail Eastern Region Stations together with the Bus Station which all have a direct entrance from the complex, provide exceptional public transport facilities to all parts of Central London and Essex.

The two remaining office blocks providing a total of approximately 88,000 sq ft of good quality air-conditioned office accommodation are now ready for immediate occupation either together or in separate buildings of approximately 60,000 and 28,000 sq ft respectively.

The Stratford Centre E15



A development by Ravensell Properties Limited
(Principal subsidiary of The Land Securities Investment Trust Limited)
in Partnership with the London Borough of Newham

Hillier Parker
May & Rowden
11 Grosvenor St, London W1A 2BT 01-629 7666

Victor Behrens Sandhurst & Co
12 Harley St, W1N 2AE 01-636 2491

Hugh Stephenson

Wanted: a link between tax liabilities and investment

THE SCOTTISH EASTERN INVESTMENT TRUST LIMITED

BOOK—As the year progressed it became apparent that the stringent monetary policy adopted in 1974 in the U.S.A., instead of price and wage controls, had produced a recession and a stagflation economy. As a result many of the problems of the previous two years have been repeated, the dollar has become less vulnerable and the chances for a sustainable business recovery are uncertain. The United Kingdom lower world interest rates, lower commodity prices, and the Government-inflation controls have, at least temporarily, restored a measure of confidence in the U.K. Prospects in this country, however, appear very uncertain. Many problems remain to be solved, not the least of these is the lack of any real incentive for saving and investment. Investment by individuals in the United Kingdom is still very low.

LOOKING AHEAD—The sharp rise in equity prices in Wall Street and London a setback will not be surprising and it is considered prudent to hold a high percentage of funds on deposit to take advantage of any further price rises. The recent estimates and forecasts in appearance

There should be a considerable improvement in company profits in the U.S.A. in 1976. The U.K. and other parts of the world the same is much less predictable but it will be a disappointment if there is not some increase in gross income in the current year. Present intention is to reduce the disparity in dividends by increasing the interim due in 1976 from 0.875p to 1p, but at this stage it is not clear whether the total dividend in 1977 will be higher.

1976	1975
£3,325,054	£3,491,232
3.10p	3.24p
3.00p	2.90p
£78,217,775	£50,630,426
148p	96p
155p	104p
10.200	10.200

NatWest Finance for growth

Extracts from the Statement
by the Chairman, Sir John Prideaux OBE



The Group's average deposit resources and lending continued to expand in 1975.



The confidence of the NatWest Group in the longer-term future has been shown throughout by our large capital investment programme undertaken to meet planned expansion of domestic and international business.



Direct representation in Scotland, with the opening of branches in Edinburgh and Glasgow, offers excellent prospects for the growth of Group business.



Our international operations continue to expand and to make an important contribution to Group profits.



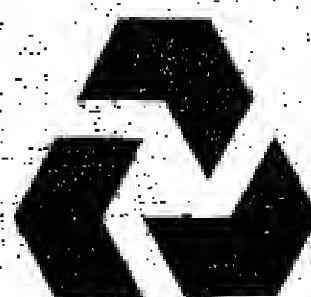
We have demonstrated a commitment to expanding our business in the United States and Canada. The opening of new offices is planned during the next few years.



There are now clear signs of a gradual improvement in the UK economy. NatWest Group has entered into substantial medium-term commitments to industry and is ready to provide industry with the necessary financial resources for a sustained recovery.

Figures taken from Group Accounts 1975

Ordinary share capital	£183,522,000
Reserves	£661,732,000
Current, deposit and other accounts	£13,238,969,000
Advances	£9,056,612,000
Group profit before allocation to staff profit-sharing	£107,830,000
Group profit after taxation but before extraordinary items	£46,438,000



**National
Westminster
Bank**

Copies of the Report and Accounts, which include the Chairman's Statement, may be obtained from the Secretary's Office, National Westminster Bank Limited, 41, Lothbury, London EC2P 2BP.

(continued)

